



3200 Devine Street, Suite 103
Columbia, South Carolina 29205
info@garberreporting.com
Telephone: (803) 256-4500

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

November 18, 2025

2025 SC Judicial Merit Selection Commission

REPORTER: Kathryn Bostrom

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

* * * * *

BEFORE: REPRESENTATIVE "MICAH" CASKEY, IV, CHAIRMAN
SENATOR LUKE A. RANKIN, VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR GEORGE E. CAMPSSEN
SENATOR OVERTURE WALKER
REPRESENTATIVE WALLACE H. "JAY" JORDAN, JR.
REPRESENTATIVE LEONIDAS E. "LEON" STAVRINAKIS
JOHN T. LAY
CHRISTIAN STEGMAIER
MARY AGNES HOOD CRAIG
LANNEAU W. LAMBERT JR.
PETER D. PROTOPAPAS
THE HONORABLE JOSEPH MONROE STRICKLAND
ERIN B. CRAWFORD, CHIEF COUNSEL

* * * * *

DATE: Tuesday, November 18, 2025
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Gressette Building, Room 105
1101 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
REPORTED BY: Kathryn B. Bostrom, Court Reporter

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CONTENTS:
(Hearings)

	PAGE
Exhibit Index	3
The Honorable Milton Kimpson	
Examination by Mr. Umsted	14
Will Wheeler	
Examination by Ms. Crawford	33
The Honorable Steven DeBerry	
Examination by Ms. Wilkinson	58
Melissa A. Inzerillo	
Examination by Ms. Crater	76
Misti Shelton	
Examination by Ms. Trask	94
E. Thompson Kinney	
Examination by Mr. Austin	139
Marissa K. Jacobson	
Examination by Ms. Baker	156
Anthony Phillip LaMantia III	
Examination by Ms. Foster	185
Kelly Pope-Black	
Examination by Ms. Crater	214
The Honorable Tarita A. Dunbar	
*Complainant: Justin Ruzicka	

1	Examination by Mr. Hinson	261
2	Examination by Mr. Hinson	278
3	Certification of Reporter	300
4	Word Index	
5		
6		
7	EXHIBITS	
8		
9	Exhibit No. 1 (16 Pages)	13
10	(PDQ - The Honorable Milton G. Kimpson)	
11	Exhibit No. 2 (8 Pages)	13
12	(Sworn Statement - The Honorable Milton G. Kimpson)	
13	Exhibit No. 3 (18 Pages)	32
14	(PDQ - Will Wheeler)	
15	Exhibit No. 4 (5 Pages)	33
16	(Sworn Statement - Will Wheeler)	
17	Exhibit No. 5 (13 Pages)	57
18	(PDQ - The Honorable Steven DeBerry)	
19	Exhibit No. 6 (2 Pages)	57
20	(Amendment - The Honorable Steven DeBerry)	
21	Exhibit No. 7 (7 Pages)	57
22	(Sworn Statement - The Honorable Steven DeBerry)	
23	Exhibit No. 8 (1 Pages)	57
24	(Amendment - The Honorable Steven DeBerry)	
25	Exhibit No. 9 (17 Pages)	73

1	(PDQ - Melissa A. Inzerillo)	
2	Exhibit No. 10 (6 Pages)	74
3	(Sworn Statement - Melissa A. Inzerillo)	
4	Exhibit No. 11 (16 Pages)	93
5	(PDQ - Misti Shelton)	
6	Exhibit No. 12 (1 Pages)	93
7	(Amendment - Misti Shelton)	
8	Exhibit No. 13 (6 Pages)	93
9	(Sworn Statement - Misti Shelton)	
10	Exhibit No. 14 (19 Pages)	137
11	(PDQ - E. Thompson Kinney)	
12	Exhibit No. 15 (7 Pages)	137
13	(Sworn Statement - E. Thompson Kinney)	
14	Exhibit No. 16 (16 Pages)	155
15	(PDQ - Marissa K. Jacobson)	
16	Exhibit No. 17 (7 Pages)	155
17	(Sworn Statement - Marissa K. Jacobson)	
18	Exhibit No. 18 (14 Pages)	183
19	(PDQ - Anthony Phillip LaMantia III)	
20	Exhibit No. 19 (1 Pages)	183
21	(Amendment - Anthony Phillip LaMantia III)	
22	Exhibit No. 20 (5 Pages)	183
23	(Sworn Statement - Anthony Phillip LaMantia III)	
24	Exhibit No. 21 (19 Pages)	212
25	(PDQ - Kelly Pope-Black)	

1	Exhibit No. 22 (1 Pages)	. . . . .	212
2	(Amendment - Kelly Pope-Black)		
3	Exhibit No. 23 (9 Pages)	. . . . .	213
4	(Sworn statement - Kelly Pope-Black)		
5	Exhibit No. 24 (12 Pages)	. . . . .	257
6	(PDQ - The Honorable Tarita A. Dunbar)		
7	Exhibit No. 25 (5 Pages)	. . . . .	257
8	(Sworn Statement - The Honorable Tarita A. Dunbar)		
9	Exhibit No. 26 (111 Pages)	. . . . .	257
10	(Affidavit - Justin Ruzicka)		

11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Court Reporter's Legend:

dashes [--] Intentional or purposeful]
interruption
[ph] Denotes phonetically written
[sic] Written as said

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

3 My name is Micah Caskey and we will convene for
4 the day and continue our hearings as the Judicial
5 Merit Selection Commission. Today is Tuesday,
6 November 18th. The motion from Representative
7 Jordan is that we go into executive session for a
8 legal briefing. That motion is seconded by
9 Senator Rankin. All in favor, signify by saying
10 aye.

11 MEMBERS: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All oppose nay? The ayes have it.

13 We will then proceed into executive session for
14 legal briefing. Thank you.

15 (Off the Record)

16 (Executive Session was held from 9:16 to 9:23 am)

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we
18 will resume with our screenings here today. We
19 are back out of executive session. For the
20 record, while we are in executive session
21 receiving the legal briefing, no decisions were
22 made, no votes were taken. The first matter we
23 have before us this morning are some votes on the
24 qualification of candidates that we met with
25 yesterday. And I would recognize staff counsel

1 to lead us through that voting process. Ms.
2 Crawford.

3 MS. CRAWFORD: We'll go in order the seats yesterday
4 and what we generally do is we address -- The
5 commission will address the qualifications and
6 like we discussed, if they're fewer than six
7 candidates and they're found qualified, then that
8 y'all would automatically nominate them. You
9 don't have a choice at that point. Yes. The
10 voting sheets, Kate is going around showing you
11 where it is and if you could turn this in after.
12 It's just a -- Yeah, you can check or initial.
13 It doesn't matter. We just hang on to it.
14 Qualified, qualified, nominated, not qualified.
15 It's pretty self explanatory in your notebooks.
16 And Lindi will collect those at the end.

17 MR. STAVRINAKIS: Is qualified and nominated even a
18 necessary category now?

19 MS. CRAWFORD: It is for when you have over six
20 candidates. Not for the races we're going to
21 discuss today.

22 MR. STAVRINAKIS: So for all these races, those first
23 two are equivalent categories. There's no --

24 MS. CRAWFORD: Correct. But we'll look at
25 individually since we did have a abstention. So

1 we'll go through, look at the qualifications to
2 Judge Anderson. And we do have -- Mr. Protopapas
3 is abstaining from this vote.

4 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: So the pending question is
5 qualification of the Honorable Ralph K.
6 Anderson, III. You can signify by raising. All
7 in favor signify by raising your hand saying aye.

8 MEMBERS: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And please notate as well on your
10 sheet. That was 11 to 0 in favor of
11 qualification. The next question is
12 qualification of the Honorable John Cannon Few.
13 All in favor signify by raising your hand and
14 saying aye.

15 MEMBERS: Aye.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. So all 12 unanimously find Judge
17 Few qualified. The next is qualification of the
18 Honorable Blake A. Hewitt. All in favor of
19 qualification, raise your hand and say aye.

20 MEMBERS: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. Vote is unanimous as well as to
22 qualification of Judge Hewitt. And the last
23 candidate for Supreme Court is Jay Lucas. All in
24 favor of qualification, raise your hand to
25 signify by saying aye.

1 MEMBERS: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. Again, unanimous for
3 qualification of Jay Lucas and nomination,
4 because there are fewer than six candidates in
5 the race.

6 MS. CRAWFORD: The next candidate is the Honorable
7 Stephanie P. McDonald who is running for re-
8 election to the Court of Appeals seat seven.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. All right. Question is
10 qualification of the Honorable Stephanie P.
11 McDonald. All in favor signify by raising your
12 hand and saying aye.

13 MEMBERS: Aye.

14 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. All opposed? Ayes have it.
15 It's unanimous in favor of qualification of Judge
16 McDonald.

17 MS. CRAWFORD: We will go through -- We just need --
18 We don't need qualified and nominated because we
19 don't need to nominate retired judges. It's just
20 a vote on their qualifications. The first judge
21 up is the Honorable Joseph Derham Cole.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Question is qualification of Judge
23 Cole. All in favor, raise your hand, signify by
24 saying aye.

25 MEMBERS: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. Again, unanimous. 12 to 0
2 favor qualification Judge Cole. Next is
3 qualification of the Honorable Thomas W. Cooper,
4 Jr. All in favor, signify raising your hand and
5 saying aye.

6 MEMBERS: Aye.

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Opposed? It is unanimous in favor of
8 qualification Judge Cooper. The next question is
9 qualification of the Honorable Ronald R. Norton.
10 All in favor, signify by raising your hand and
11 saying aye.

12 MEMBERS: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Opposed? 12 to 0 unanimous in favor
14 of qualification of Judge Norton. Bringing us to
15 the qualification of the Honorable William J.
16 Wiley. All in favor of qualification, signify by
17 raising your hand and saying aye.

18 MEMBERS: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. All opposed, nay. It is
20 unanimous 12 to nothing in favor of qualification
21 of Judge Wiley. The last race in this bucket is
22 qualification of -- Excuse me, I said race. But
23 it is a individual determination for the
24 Honorable Stephen H. John as a retired Circuit
25 Court judge. All in favor of qualification,

1 raise your hand and signify by saying aye. I see
2 none. All opposed, signify by raising your hand
3 and saying no.

4 MEMBERS: No.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: No. So the determination is not
6 qualified by a vote of 0 to 12, 12 to 0. I'm not
7 sure how exactly to say that, but all 12 votes
8 were in favor of not qualifying. The Honorable
9 Stephen H. John.

10 MS. CRAWFORD: And the final candidate is The
11 Honorable Debbie McCaslin, Circuit Court, 11th
12 Circuit Seat 3, re-election.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Question is qualification of the
14 Honorable Debbie McCaslin. All in favor, signify
15 by raising your hand and saying aye.

16 MEMBERS: Aye.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Aye. Any opposed? Seeing none, it
18 is unanimous 12 to 0 in favor of qualification of
19 the Honorable Debbie McCaslin.

20 MS. CRAWFORD: That's it.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. And that is all that we
22 have before us based on the hearings yesterday.
23 And with that, we will proceed with the first
24 candidate on today's agenda.

25 *****

1 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Before us we have Judge
2 Milton Kimpson. If you would, sir, please raise
3 your right hand.

4 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

5 WHEREUPON:

6 MILTON KIMPSON, being duly sworn and
7 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
8 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: If you would, please, sir, state
10 your full name for the record.

11 JUDGE KIMPSON: Milton Gary Kimpson.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Judge, there should be some
13 documents in front of you. If you would please
14 take a moment to look at those.

15 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Those are the personal data
17 questionnaire and the sworn statement that you
18 submitted to the commission.

19 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir, they are.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are there any updates or changes
21 that need to be made?

22 JUDGE KIMPSON: No, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you have any objection to our
24 including those in the record?

25 JUDGE KIMPSON: No objection whatsoever.

1 (EXHIBIT NO. 1 MARKED FOR
2 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
3 PDQ - Milton Kimpson)

4 (EXHIBIT NO. 2 MARKED FOR
5 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
6 Sworn Statement - Milton Kimpson)

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Let me give staff a
8 chance to do that. Great, thank you. And Judge,
9 I should have noted at the outset this -- your
10 candidacy is for seat five as an at large circuit
11 court judge reelection. Do I have that right?

12 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. The Judicial Merit
14 Selection Commission has thoroughly investigated
15 your qualifications for the for the bench. Our
16 investigation has -- or excuse me, our inquiry is
17 focused on nine evaluative criteria and has
18 included a ballot box survey, a thorough study of
19 your application materials, verification of your
20 compliance with state ethics laws, newspaper
21 search for which your name appears, study of
22 previous screenings, and a check for economic
23 conflicts of interest. We have received no
24 affidavits filed in opposition to your election.
25 No witnesses are present to testify. If you'd

1 like to make a brief opening statement, I'd be
2 happy to recognize you for that. Or I would turn
3 to staff counsel to begin with questions.

4 JUDGE KIMPSON: Just like to say thank you for this
5 opportunity. It's been a wonderful opportunity
6 to serve the state and I look forward to your
7 questions. Thank you, sir.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Umsted.

9 MR. UMSTED: Thank you. Initially, I note for the
10 record that commission member Christian Stegmaier is
11 abstaining from participation in the screening of
12 Judge Milton G. Kimpson. I further note for the
13 record that based on the testimony contained in the
14 candidate's PDQ, which has been included in the record
15 with the candidate's consent, Judge Kimpson meets the
16 statutory requirements for the position regarding age,
17 residency and years of practice.

18 EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. UMSTED:

20 **Q. Judge Kimpson, after serving a little more than a year**
21 **on the circuit court, why do you want to continue**
22 **serving as a circuit court judge?**

23 A. Being on the circuit court has been incredibly
24 challenging. And I feel every day that I'm doing not
25 only the state's business, but of course, I'm helping

1 our justice system. It's been challenging. Some days
2 have been better than others. Some days I want to run
3 and hide. But overall, it's been a wonderful
4 experience and I'd just like to continue that service.
5 I just feel that we are doing good work for the state
6 of South Carolina.

7 **Q. Judge Kimpson, what do you think your reputation is**
8 **among attorneys that practice before you?**

9 A. I'd like to think that the lawyers who come before me
10 know that I'm going to pay attention, that I'm going
11 to consider their arguments, and that before I render
12 a decision, I'm going to weigh all factors. Sometimes
13 I may take too long to get a decision, but I think
14 they know that I'm going to consider and I hear
15 everything that's being said.

16 **Q. Judge Kimpson, the commission received 614 ballot box**
17 **surveys regarding you, with 72 additional comments.**
18 **The ballot box surveys, for example, contain the**
19 **following positive comments: Judge Kimpson is the type**
20 **of person we want on the bench, informed, thoughtful,**
21 **and humble. Judge Kimpson is very fair and renders**
22 **well-reasoned decisions. He has a credit to the legal**
23 **profession. And lastly, Judge Kimpson is one of the**
24 **best judges in South Carolina. His knowledge,**
25 **temperament, and approach to cases and litigants is**

1 one to be modeled for other jurists. Six of the
2 written comments express concerns. Of those, a few of
3 the comments concern delayed rulings or inefficiencies
4 in rendering decisions. What response would you offer
5 for this concern?

6 A. I think, and I've thought a lot about how long it has
7 taken me to issue some opinions and decisions. Civil
8 motions can often almost deluge of cases and motions
9 that I'll have to consider. In the very beginning, I
10 had lots of difficulty, not so much with the subject
11 matter, not with the complexities of cases but the
12 idea that I wanted to sit, I wanted to make sure I
13 read everything and before rendering a decision, I
14 essentially wanted to be perfect. And I had to
15 realize that I can't be perfect. I've got to make a
16 decision, I've got to assign the order to someone. So
17 what we've done is after that initial, I say, two,
18 three, even four month backlog, I've relied on other
19 judges to help get -- to try to get tips on how to
20 handle these things. And we've developed better
21 processes in the office to try to turn orders around
22 quickly. Now after a civil motion -- a day of civil
23 motions, I'll sit with my law clerk, we will make an
24 initial decision. And if -- even if I need to revisit
25 that, what I've done is to try to outline what I

1 believe will happen, we'll do additional reading and
2 try to get that decision out within a relatively short
3 period of time. I will say there's something called
4 the Matters Under Advisement report that must be
5 turned into court administration if a case goes on --
6 if you hear a case, and then 30 days have gone by, and
7 you've not rendered a decision. In the very
8 beginning, my Matters Under Advisement report looked
9 terrible. But we've worked on it, and for the first
10 time, probably since I took office, last week, I
11 submitted a Matters Under Advisement report that had
12 zero cases. Now, of course, I've had a term of civil
13 motion since then. So I'm working on those too so
14 that we will not have anything that's overdue and has
15 to be. That's a very fair criticism is just something
16 that I think I have to continue to work on.

17 **Q. A few of the comments also concerned deficits in legal**
18 **knowledge or needing to -- or needing improvements in**
19 **legal writing. What response would you offer for this**
20 **concern?**

21 **A.** Well, in the beginning, I wanted to write my own
22 orders. I've not been able to do that simply because
23 you don't -- you can't keep up with everything. So I
24 rely on lawyers to write orders. When I get that
25 order in, I make sure that it's consistent with my

1 ruling. And then of course, we've got to issue it.
2 So I do rewrite some orders. I'm not -- I don't know
3 really how to address anyone saying that I don't write
4 well. I've always prided myself on that. But we'll
5 continue to do better as we go forward. Deficits in
6 legal knowledge. That's an interesting area. This --
7 and, of course, in the circuit court, as opposed to
8 the Administrative Law Court and some other places
9 I've been, there's just so much more information, so
10 many different areas of the law. The only thing I can
11 say is I've got to do better to address what might be
12 perceived as a deficit. The good thing about the
13 circuit court is you've got lawyers who have prepared,
14 you've got lawyers who submit briefs. And that law
15 generally is correct. I've just got to decide which
16 way I want to go with the decision. So you just try
17 to do the best you can.

18 **Q. And lastly, a few of the concerns -- or a few of the**
19 **comments indicate a concern regarding your**
20 **understanding of criminal trial procedure and**
21 **evidentiary rulings. How would you respond to that**
22 **concern?**

23 **A.** At the Administrative Law Court, I was the ultimate
24 gatekeeper because of course, I made the decision so
25 that if something came in that probably in terms of

1 evidence that shouldn't have come in, I could always
2 just disregard that in my own decision. As a circuit
3 court judge, of course, especially with jury trials,
4 I'm the one who has to be a gatekeeper, has to be much
5 more -- much more concerned about what comes in and
6 not because a jury even with a curative instruction
7 may use that in an improper way. So we've just got to
8 get better with regard to evidentiary issues, with
9 regard to -- particularly with regard to criminal
10 procedure. I've never done a whole lot of criminal
11 trial work. I did do some criminal work as a
12 practicing lawyer. It's just something we just have
13 to get better at. Have to just do better.

14 **Q. Thank you, Judge Kimpson.**

15 MR. UMSTED: I would note that the Midland Citizens
16 Committee found Judge Kimpson qualified in the
17 evaluative criteria of constitutional
18 qualifications, physical health and mental
19 stability. The committee found him well
20 qualified in the evaluative criteria of ethical
21 fitness, professional and academic ability,
22 character, reputation, experience and judicial
23 temperament. The committee stated in summary, he
24 is a great judge who is well liked, organized,
25 intelligent, and strong character with an

1 exemplary temperament. And they also noted he
2 should be reelected and continue to serve our
3 judicial branch as a leader.

4 Q. Just a few housekeeping issues. JMSC procedural Rule
5 17 includes a prohibition on any candidate from
6 attending or watching any portion of the live stream
7 or recordings of public hearings of this cycle until
8 after all hearings are concluded. Have you watched or
9 listened to any of these hearings before your
10 appearance today?

11 A. No, sir.

12 Q. Has any other person relayed any information about any
13 of the proceedings before this commission to you?

14 A. No, sir.

15 Q. Judge Kimpson, since submitting your letter of intent,
16 have you contacted any members of the commission about
17 your candidacy?

18 A. No, sir.

19 Q. Are you familiar with section 2-19-70, including the
20 limitations on contacting members of the General
21 Assembly regarding your screening?

22 A. I am. I am familiar with it, yes.

23 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
24 sought or received any -- or received the pledge of
25 any legislator, either prior to this date or pending

1 the outcome of your screening?

2 A. No, sir.

3 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
4 the General Assembly on your behalf, or are you aware
5 of anyone attempting to intervene in this process?

6 A. I have not.

7 Q. And have you reviewed and do you understand the
8 commission's guidelines on pledging and South Carolina
9 Code section 2-19-70(E)?

10 A. I am familiar with it, yes.

11 MR. UMSTED: I would just note for the record that any
12 concerns raised during the investigation
13 regarding Judge Kimpson were incorporated into
14 the questions -- or into the questioning of this
15 candidate today. Mr. Chairman, I have no further
16 questions.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Members of the
18 commission have any questions for Judge Kimpson?
19 Mr. Lay?

20 MR. LAY: Good morning, Judge Kimpson.

21 JUDGE KIMPSON: Morning, sir.

22 MR. LAY: I wanted to just figure out exactly what
23 you're doing to improve, you know, your
24 experience level, your knowledge in criminal
25 procedure, criminal law.

1 JUDGE KIMPSON: Reading, of course, advance sheets.

2 When an issue comes up -- I appreciate when, in
3 the criminal realm, when I have pretrial motions
4 getting them early so that we can do the research
5 necessary to make sure that we are prepared. Of
6 course, talking to other judges. One morning, I
7 had a trial where the issue about bifurcation
8 came up. So of course, I did some preliminary
9 research, but then shot out an email to the other
10 judges and got great advice and did additional
11 research based on that. Where I have evidentiary
12 issues that come up in the midst of trial,
13 sometimes I'll just need to take a break.

14 Sometimes when motions come up, we'll just not
15 rule immediately, but go back to the chambers and
16 research those. So what I hope for at all times
17 is pretrial issues that may be thorny, becoming
18 aware of those prior to trial, so that I'll have
19 an opportunity to review and hopefully make a
20 correct ruling on that. It's just, for lack of a
21 better way of description, homework.

22 MR. LAY: And I can tell you, I've had a different
23 experience with you on evidentiary issues --

24 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

25 MR. LAY: -- since we tried a case 30 years ago against

1 each other and I thought it was going to go to
2 the U.S. Supreme Court. And I was very impressed
3 with your knowledge of the Rules of Evidence and
4 your knowledge just in how to do your job around
5 a courtroom.

6 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

7 MR. LAY: So I just wanted to be sure that was
8 expressed.

9 JUDGE KIMPSON: Thank you.

10 MR. LAY: That's all.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And Judge, if I might, before, as I
12 see the Senator from Richland reaching for his
13 microphone, humbly make a suggestion where
14 opportunities for improvement have been
15 identified. One way that I see folks more
16 quickly arrive at success is through CLEs and
17 other deliberative education efforts. This is
18 not just a shameless plug for the CLE that
19 Senator from Richland will be delivering at the
20 bar convention here in January on a view of the
21 Legislature's activity, but there are CLEs
22 certainly that can help, though, I think the
23 Senator will do a fantastic job in that
24 presentation. Or else it might be the most
25 boring half hour of in all of human history. I'm

1 probably the first half. Okay, I'm sorry, where
2 were we? Does anyone else have questions for --
3 Representative Stavrinakis?

4 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Judge, thank you so much
5 for your service and welcome this morning.

6 JUDGE KIMPSON: Thank you.

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: I'm not sure and, you
8 know, up here -- I know in Charleston, Judge
9 Young, when cases are likely headed to trial,
10 does a wonderful job of statusing the cases
11 during that process. He asks the lawyers to
12 flush out potential issues, motions that might
13 and are likely to come up at trial.

14 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

15 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: I think that helps the
16 process of identifying issues prior to trial,
17 which, as you mentioned, is often helpful to
18 trial judges to know. Many times those issues
19 might even be heard and resolved before trial.
20 So again, I don't know the processes in your home
21 circuit as well as I do back home, but I would
22 just suggest that's a wonderful tool for judges
23 and for lawyers --

24 JUDGE KIMPSON: I agree.

25 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- to be prepared and to

1 kind of clear the deck for the actual conduct of
2 a trial and allow them to proceed more
3 efficiently and to have rulings, you know, be
4 able to -- a judge to be able to consider
5 necessary rulings more efficiently and just
6 wasn't sure if y'all were doing that up here.
7 Probably are, but I've been impressed with what
8 Judge Young does on so many issues but as chief
9 admin down in Charleston, he really does a good
10 job. I do a lot of criminal work down there.

11 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

12 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: And I imagine it's very
13 helpful to the trial judges.

14 JUDGE KIMPSON: It is incredibly helpful to have
15 everything -- as much as you can beforehand to
16 get a heads up. Judge Young is always willing to
17 assist. The other thing, though, is, of course,
18 a Sharepoint drive and Judge Young has always
19 contributed to the Sharepoint drive so there are
20 samples, cases that he's done in the past,
21 verdict sheets. It's just been incredibly
22 helpful with sharing his knowledge with other
23 judges. So thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator Walker.

25 SENATOR WALKER: Let me begin, Mr. Chair, by saying

1 that that seminar that we have coming up in
2 January, you will be headlining. I'm just the
3 opening act. But it's good to see you, Judge.

4 JUDGE KIMPSON: Good morning.

5 SENATOR WALKER: What I would like to say to you, and
6 just for this body, is commend you on your
7 decades of public service and not to, I guess,
8 underscore your age, but your public service goes
9 back to, what, the late '80s if I'm not mistaken.

10 JUDGE KIMPSON: That is about right, yes, sir.

11 SENATOR WALKER: You were a JAG officer.

12 JUDGE KIMPSON: Correct.

13 SENATOR WALKER: I didn't know that about you.

14 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

15 SENATOR WALKER: I've known you for years. I didn't
16 know you had served as a JAG officer. You know,
17 staff attorney at DHEC. In fact, I think I first
18 met you when you were a chief legal counsel at
19 the Department of Revenue.

20 JUDGE KIMPSON: That is correct.

21 SENATOR WALKER: So your just decades of service, not
22 only as a settler, but it's certainly, you know,
23 more than commendable. And I know most people
24 are probably well familiar with your brother, the
25 former Senator from Charleston, --

1 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

2 SENATOR WALKER: -- Marlin, but public service runs in
3 your family.

4 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

5 SENATOR WALKER: I think your dad started the
6 Community Relations Council, was one of the
7 founders of the Community Relations Council back
8 in the late '60s.

9 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

10 SENATOR WALKER: So a civil rights trailblazer. So
11 just what you're doing is just it's consonant
12 with what your family has done for the state of
13 South Carolina, dating back to, you know, the
14 1960s. I don't have any concerns about your, you
15 know, legal acumen. No one can know everything.
16 We've had many judges appointed to elected to the
17 bench rather, who didn't have experience in the
18 criminal realm, or some had experience doing
19 criminal work, but not much experience in the
20 area of civil litigation.

21 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

22 SENATOR WALKER: While the onus is certainly on you to
23 expand your knowledge, but I learned early on in
24 my career that sometimes as lawyers, you have to
25 take the judge to where you want him or her to

1 go, meaning that you do the requisite research,
2 you provide the information to the judge, you
3 cite the correct case law. In an ideal world,
4 you know, judges would know -- will have the
5 answer to everything. But as litigants, you have
6 to, you know, give the judge the information that
7 he or she needs to make the correct decision. So
8 as long as there's a judge who actually
9 understands the law, who can comprehend and
10 understand complex legal principles, that makes
11 me comfortable, and you have that in spades. So
12 thank you for being willing to offer yourself up
13 for another six years.

14 JUDGE KIMPSON: Thank you. Yes, sir.

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator Rankin.

16 SENATOR RANKIN: Judge, I want to commend you, though,
17 perhaps not the given as much or certain times,
18 as little regard as we pay to the ballot box
19 surveys, these anonymous statements made about
20 all the candidates.

21 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

22 SENATOR RANKIN: Again, varying degrees of whether
23 people agree that we should look at them or
24 ignore them. One thing that just screams from
25 every comment about you, and one in particular,

1 particularly with regard to criminal experience,
2 is your even handedness, your even temperament.
3 And forgive me, I'm going to read this one best I
4 can or paraphrase, but someone appeared before
5 you in general session in Berkeley County for a
6 plea. The writer writes that you connected with
7 the client who was pleading guilty in a way that
8 I do not know that I've ever seen before. You
9 were firm, at the same time, they could tell in
10 your voice and your demeanor that you truly,
11 truly took an interest in the client and worked
12 to render a just sentence. He doesn't know you
13 or she outside of the few times that you appear,
14 but you reflect the highest ideals of our
15 judiciary and you're a great asset to our state.
16 That cannot say more to me that a person would
17 take the time to write this in such detail.

18 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

19 SENATOR RANKIN: In such perhaps a throw away
20 opportunity. But the little things to me, define
21 our import and our impact with people. And so I
22 want to just tip my hat to you, as these others
23 have said, maybe you don't get it right. That's
24 why there's an appellate bench. Maybe you don't
25 get it right on the time.

1 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

2 SENATOR RANKIN: But you get it. And you do it in a
3 way that I just have to think Clifton Newman
4 would be proud of, as well as Tommy Cooper --

5 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: -- who at 85, yesterday we saw and
7 happily extended his retired services. So for
8 those skills that you learned at home, from your
9 parents, from your community, beautifully done
10 and I commend you for your continued willingness
11 to do it.

12 JUDGE KIMPSON: Thank you, sir. Thank you, sir.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, Judge Kimpson, thank you
14 very much for your service to the state and the
15 many capacities in which you have served. And
16 thank you for offering for continued service
17 here. This will conclude this portion of the
18 screening process. I do need to take this
19 opportunity to remind you that pursuant to the
20 commission's evaluative criteria, the commission
21 can still follow the letter as well as the spirit
22 of our ethics law, and we would view any
23 violation or appearance of impropriety as very
24 serious and deserving of heavy weight in our
25 screening deliberations. So on that note, as you

1 know, the record will remain open until the
2 formal release of the qualifications report. If
3 there were an issue to arise, we can call you
4 back for further conversation. Do you understand
5 all of that, sir?

6 JUDGE KIMPSON: Yes, sir. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Wonderful. Again, that will
8 conclude this portion of the hearing. Thank you
9 for offering for service to the state of South
10 Carolina.

11 JUDGE KIMPSON: Thank you all. Have a wonderful
12 afternoon.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you. And we will proceed with
14 our next candidate once he or she is here in the
15 room with us.

16 (Off the record)

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we
18 will resume with our screenings here this
19 morning. Before us, we have Will Wheeler, a
20 candidate for Seat 2 in the Third Circuit of the
21 circuit court bench. Do I have all that right,
22 sir?

23 MR. WHEELER: Yes, sir.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would please
25 raise your right hand.

1 WHEREUPON:

2 WILLIAM WHEELER, being duly sworn and
3 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
4 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would please
6 state your full name for the record.

7 MR. WHEELER: William W. Wheeler III.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Wonderful. There should be some
9 documents there in front of you. If you would
10 take a moment and review those.

11 MR. WHEELER: Okay. I have.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. Are those the personal data
13 questionnaire and the scoring statement that
14 you've submitted?

15 MR. WHEELER: Yes, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Any changes or updates need to be
17 made?

18 MR. WHEELER: No, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you have any objection to our
20 including those in the record as a part of our
21 screening process?

22 MR. WHEELER: No, sir.

23 (EXHIBIT NO. 3 MARKED FOR
24 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (18 pages)
25 PDQ - Will Wheeler)

(EXHIBIT NO. 4 MARKED FOR
IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (5 pages)
Sworn Statement - Will Wheeler)

CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Let me give staff just a moment to do that. The Judicial Merit Selection Commission has thoroughly investigated your qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry has focused on the nine evaluative criteria and has included a ballot box survey, a thorough study of your application materials, a search of newspaper -- newspaper articles in which name appears, verification of your compliance with state ethics laws, and checks for economic conflicts of interest. We received no affidavits filed in opposition to your election, and no witnesses are present to testify. If you would like to make a brief opening statement, we'd be happy to hear from you. Otherwise, I would recognize council to begin with some questions.

MR. WHEELER: Just appreciate the opportunity to be here and glad to answer any questions. Thank you all for serving and having me here this morning.

CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Ms. Crawford?

EXAMINATION

MS. CRAWFORD:

1 Q. Good morning, Mr. Wheeler.

2 A. Good morning.

3 MS. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I note for the record
4 that based on the testimony contained in Mr.
5 Wheeler's PDQ, which has been included in the
6 record with his consent, Will Wheeler meets the
7 constitutional and statutory requirements for
8 this position regarding age residents and years
9 of practice.

10 Q. Mr. Wheeler, can you give the commission a short
11 summary of your legal and professional experience and
12 tell them how this experience renders you qualified,
13 and will assist you to be an effective circuit court
14 judge?

15 A. I've been actively practicing law since admission to
16 the bar in 1999. I continuously practiced with
17 Jennings and Jennings PA in Bishopville, South
18 Carolina since December of 2000. It's a small general
19 practice, small town firm. In that capacity, had a
20 pretty broad experience. Tried and worked on lots of
21 different kinds of cases from criminal cases to civil
22 cases. Had a lot of jury trials over those years, and
23 had I think a good professional experience. I've
24 immensely enjoyed practicing law. This is certainly
25 something I always hoped maybe one day to have the

1 opportunity to do. Of course, we all know there's no
2 control over when those opportunities will arise, but
3 I appreciate to have had the opportunity to do it now.
4 I always thought, hoped, and if you all find the same
5 and the body finds the same, that my personality and
6 skills may be well suited to doing this. And I hope
7 to offer service in that capacity. Thank you.

8 **Q. Thank you. Should you be elected? How do you think**
9 **your service as a former member of the General**
10 **Assembly will impact your philosophies or your**
11 **practices in serving on the bench?**

12 **A.** I think it's helpful. I don't think I would have ever
13 grasped the separation of powers and how some of this
14 works without having served in the General Assembly
15 first. As a practicing lawyer, you certainly
16 understand those principles but until you work in a
17 day-to-day capacity, where you see vetoes, and you see
18 the interaction with the courts and how the courts
19 must rule on legislative actions. It's a very
20 interesting perspective, and I appreciate the
21 opportunity to have been able to gain that
22 perspective.

23 **Q. Thank you, Mr. Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler, the commission**
24 **received 377 ballot box surveys regarding you with 41**
25 **additional comments. Ballot box surveys, for example,**

1 contain the positive comments: Will has the perfect
2 temperance for a judge. He is respectful, calm and
3 hard working. Another comment said, Mr. Wheeler
4 possesses the wisdom and temperament to serve as a
5 circuit court judge. He is very knowledgeable in the
6 law and would serve the state well. Finally, a third
7 comment stated incredibly kind and intelligent. Would
8 be an asset to the judicial bench. There were no
9 patterns of concern raised in the ballot box surveys.
10 Mr. Wheeler, the SLED report and we went over this
11 contained -- that we received contained numerous
12 matters involving you. However, when we reviewed
13 these, they all appear to be matters in which you are
14 acting counsel. Is that correct?

15 A. Yes, ma'am. They just, I guess, mixed up. I wasn't a
16 party to any action, --

17 Q. Right.

18 A. -- but I represented folks in federal court in one
19 capacity or another.

20 Q. And then there were several matters that are listed in
21 the SLED report that I believe they were class action
22 matters, but it's my understanding that you are not
23 the William Wheeler involved in those cases, correct?

24 A. Unfortunately, not because I never received anything
25 from those matters. So no, ma'am.

1 Q. Mr. Wheeler, how would you handle a potential conflict
2 of interest involving a petition -- involving
3 potential conflicts of interest with members of your
4 family or with you?

5 A. If it were clear, I would simply recuse myself. If it
6 was something I just felt I needed to make the parties
7 aware of some family, business, friendship, whatever
8 the nature of the relationship may be. I would
9 certainly disclose it and let them decide whether they
10 felt comfortable with me hearing the matter or not.
11 And I would abide by whatever. If either party
12 objected, I would recuse myself.

13 Q. Yes, sir. I would note that the Pee Dee Citizens
14 Committee reported Mr. Wheeler is well qualified in
15 the evaluative criteria of ethical fitness,
16 professional and academic ability, character,
17 reputation, experience and judicial temperament, and
18 qualified in the evaluative criteria of constitutional
19 qualifications, physical health and mental stability.
20 I just have a few housekeeping issues. JMSC
21 procedural Rule 17 includes a prohibition of any
22 candidate from attending or watching any portion of
23 the live stream or recordings of the live stream of
24 the public hearings of this cycle until after all the
25 hearings are concluded. Have you watched or listened

1 to any of these hearings before your appearance today?

2 A. No, ma'am.

3 Q. Has any other person relayed any information about
4 those proceedings before this commission?

5 A. No, ma'am.

6 Q. Okay. Are you aware that as a judicial candidate,
7 you're bound by the Code of Judicial Conduct is found
8 in Rule 501 of the South Carolina Appellate Court
9 rules?

10 A. Yes, ma'am.

11 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
12 contacted any member of this commission about your
13 candidacy?

14 A. No, ma'am.

15 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
16 sought or received the pledge of any legislator either
17 prior to this day, or pending the outcome of your
18 screening?

19 A. No, ma'am.

20 Q. Are you familiar with to Section 2-19-70, including
21 the limitations on contacting members of the General
22 Assembly regarding your screening?

23 A. Yes, ma'am.

24 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
25 the General Assembly on your behalf? Or are you aware

1 of anyone attempting to do so?

2 A. No, ma'am.

3 Q. Have you reviewed and do you understand the
4 commission's guidelines on pledging and South Carolina
5 Code Section 2-19-70(E)?

6 A. Yes.

7 MS. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I would note for the
8 record that any concerns raised during the
9 investigation by staff regarding this candidate
10 were incorporated into the questioning of him
11 today and I have no further questions.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. Before moving on
13 to other commission members, Mr. Wheeler, I'd ask
14 you -- as I understand your practice has largely
15 been in rural areas, and how that has shaped your
16 professional development and to the extent you
17 think it is a benefit, I'd be interested to know
18 what benefit you think that perspective might be
19 to the bench as a whole for our judiciary in
20 South Carolina.

21 MR. WHEELER: I'm based in Lee County, Bishopville.
22 That's where our office is so we primarily
23 represented clients in Lee, Sumter, Darlington,
24 and Kershaw. That probably makes up the most of
25 it. And I would consider all those compared to

1 Charleston or Greenville or Richland, relatively
2 smaller communities. Most of the bars that we
3 work with, opposing counsel in cases would be
4 from well, Sumter, Columbia, Florence. That was
5 probably the bulk of it. Kershaw. But the
6 benefit, what I enjoyed, what I thought made me
7 better was knowing that that was never the last
8 time I was going to see that opposing counsel.
9 We were going to get another case together in six
10 months or two years or what have you. And it
11 taught us early not to burn bridges. And I think
12 required some additional civility which I
13 appreciated having those relationships and
14 knowing, you know, we're going to see each other
15 again. And the facts may be different. So just
16 remember that. And just the ability to work
17 together repeatedly on some tough cases, even in
18 difficult cases to know and have some level of
19 respect for opposing counsel I thought was
20 beneficial. And I think being able to foster
21 those kinds of relationships, I'd like to be able
22 to bring that where I could bring that without
23 interfering. If that answers your question, I
24 don't know.

25 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I think so. Other members of the

1 commission have questions? Mr. Stegmaier? Or
2 Judge Strickland, excuse me.

3 JUDGE STRICKLAND: Please forgive me. I'm not a
4 member of the House or haven't been a member of
5 the Legislature, but when did you leave the
6 House?

7 MR. WHEELER: Last December.

8 JUDGE STRICKLAND: Last December. So how long have
9 you been --

10 MR. WHEELER: Excuse me last January.

11 JUDGE STRICKLAND: Last January? January of 2025?

12 MR. WHEELER: January 2025.

13 JUDGE STRICKLAND: Okay. So how long have you been
14 out of the legislature?

15 MR. WHEELER: It will be a year on January the 10th.
16 No, 17th. I can't remember what day I resigned,
17 but the 15th or so January of this year. But it
18 will be more than a year prior to the election in
19 this matter.

20 JUDGE STRICKLAND: Thank you.

21 MR. WHEELER: Yes, sir.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Stegmaier.

23 MR. STEGMAIER: Mr. Wheeler, good morning.

24 MR. WHEELER: Good morning.

25 MR. STEGMAIER: Just picking up on Chairman Caskey's

1 reflections about your service in Lee County.
2 One thing I'm incredibly proud about knowing you
3 -- you know, we've been knowing each other a long
4 time is you're a unicorn in as much as you think
5 about all the folks we went to law school with
6 who stayed in Columbia or went to Greenville or
7 went to Charleston, but you chose to go home, and
8 of course had your legislative service there.
9 I'm interested to know, especially on the general
10 sessions side, you live in a challenging county,
11 to the extent where you don't have a lot of
12 members of the bar but you still have a fair
13 amount of volume especially of general sessions.
14 When we think about access to justice, making
15 sure that the system runs as smooth as it
16 possibly can in the third circuit, do you have
17 any sort of ideas that you've gleaned? Just
18 based from your practice, I know that you've done
19 a lot of work in the general sessions court as
20 well as from your legislative service. Do you
21 have any ideas about improvement? About how to
22 make things that much more smooth in your
23 circuit?

24 MR. WHEELER: I think things -- in Lee County, in
25 particularly, I'm happy to note, I think our

1 backlog situation and that kind of thing is --
2 and everything's relative, of course, but is
3 relatively well maintained at this point in our
4 particular county. I'm not familiar with all the
5 other counties in the circuit, but Lee is. And I
6 grew up in the old -- when I started practicing
7 law, there was no circuit public defender system.
8 So the local bar did the public defender work.
9 So I think there were six members of the bar when
10 I started. So if the next public defender case
11 was jaywalking, and you got it, great. If it was
12 murder, and you got it, great. You took whatever
13 you got. That was invaluable experience. Yeah,
14 I am so thankful to have had it. I do think the
15 new system, and I could not tell you, I want to
16 say it was like 2007 or so that third circuit
17 public defender system was implemented. I do
18 think made for a better system because it is more
19 uniform, it's easier to track, it's easier to
20 control, and it's more akin to the solicitors are
21 set up the same as public defenders. It probably
22 was an improvement, although I certainly enjoyed
23 having the ability. I wouldn't have been able to
24 do those cases if I hadn't been there at that
25 time. But to get back to answer your question, I

1 think promoting communication between opposing
2 sides in that -- in the general sessions realm is
3 just important as it is in the civil realm. You
4 have to be able to communicate and say all right,
5 this is up for trial, and let's have a docket and
6 let's run it. And that requires communication
7 between the parties.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator Campsen.

9 SENATOR CAMPSSEN: Early on in your introductory
10 remarks, you mentioned the impact that your
11 observation of participating in the legislative
12 process and the Separation of Powers doctrine
13 kind of seeing it close up and personal. Can you
14 elucidate on that? What you learned while in the
15 legislature in that regard?

16 MR. WHEELER: The textbook knowledge of it is no
17 different. I understood what it -- on paper how
18 separation of powers rates, but until you're, you
19 know, sitting in the chamber and you do see veto
20 messages come back from the executive branch and
21 how they must be reacted to and how those
22 branches interplay together. That is a
23 perspective that was unique to be able to see how
24 that works together, how the judiciary works.
25 Response to the Legislature. We had several

1 cases come up, more than I can mention, and I
2 don't want to point to any one, but as recently
3 as last week I think where the judiciary weighs
4 in on legislative action. And the -- there's a
5 great deal of respect -- I've observed a great
6 deal of respect from the judiciary, in how they
7 view legislative enactments. Whether you agree
8 with the law or disagree with the law, it's the
9 legislative prerogative to make that law. And
10 having sat in that chamber, it really helps to
11 get a better feel for what that means. If that
12 answers the question.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Lambert.

14 MR. LAMBERT: Mr. Wheeler, I've had the pleasure of
15 knowing your law partners, particularly Jake, for
16 decades. They're fine lawyers. I'd be curious
17 how you would express how they've helped shape
18 you as a lawyer and prepare you for what you're
19 asking us to do and qualify you to serve on the
20 bench and the judge from the Third Circuit.

21 MR. WHEELER: It's hard to describe the impact both my
22 older partners had on me without -- I don't know
23 what I'd be without them. I value them so much.
24 I grew up -- if I can put it that way. You're
25 reared as a child by your parents. You're reared

1 by as a lawyer, to some extent by the people you
2 work with. And I was very blessed to work with
3 very -- I said at some point before, we were
4 trained like bird dogs, which means, you know,
5 sometimes you're petted, sometimes you're kicked,
6 but you know where you stand. But it was
7 extremely valuable training. I mean, I think the
8 world -- I mean, I miss them dearly. In fact,
9 the process in the fall of last year deciding
10 whether I might take this route was difficult to
11 make a decision. Over the last period, I'm the
12 last one in the office at this point. And it is
13 really quiet and really lonely. And I think I
14 made the right choice. It's hard to -- we've got
15 a lot of wonderful memories. But to be the only
16 one there with all those years with being with
17 them, I think maybe everything happens for a
18 reason. But there's so many things. Mr. Robert
19 and Mr. Jacobs, just words of wisdom, I won't
20 take too much time going through them, but plenty
21 of them. Plenty of them. Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ms. Craig.

23 MS. CRAIG: Mr. Wheeler, I appreciate your comments
24 about civility. As a trial lawyer, you certainly
25 understand the importance of getting along with

1 opposing counsel and that we all have to live and
2 work together. I've enjoyed reading the comments
3 in the ballot boxes about you and it's obvious
4 that you practice what you preach. It's
5 admirable.

6 MR. WHEELER: Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator Rankin.

8 SENATOR RANKIN: I want to pick up on your letters of
9 reference and who better to know how you act and
10 practice what you preach than those who you come
11 into contact with at the courthouse. The clerk
12 of court cannot be a better indication about who
13 you are. They don't have to write these letters.
14 We request letters of reference. We've read
15 these before. You can read between the lines
16 this is a obligatory. Yours is not. And so
17 again, I had to be reminded by my seatmate here.
18 I think I know him. I agree with everything
19 we've heard thus far in terms of what people are
20 saying about you, and the temperament that you
21 will have, the civility that you will have that
22 is so needed and refreshing. And I will say of
23 this group, at least this person in this seat,
24 rewarded. And so I cannot imagine when you come
25 back that it will be anything but the same

1 accolades that folks who are recommending you for
2 the position will say about you now having
3 fulfilled that term. So thank you.

4 MR. WHEELER: Thank you, Senator. Thank you, Senator.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Wheeler, I have come to know you
6 over several years, I have personally no doubt
7 about your qualification. I think you can
8 distinguish yourself in ways that others have
9 referenced and is replete in the ballot box
10 record that you don't get to see all of but I
11 assure you there are dozens of superlative
12 comments about it. But I do, though, feel a
13 certain responsibility, given your status as a
14 previous legislator, to put the question to you
15 because your ability to respond to the question
16 going forward will be limited to non existent
17 from the perspective of a public perception. The
18 public will have concerns about any legislator
19 who offers in for service in the judiciary. And
20 while I may not reach the same conclusions as the
21 members of -- some members of the public, I think
22 that the question is worth asking to you so that
23 you can say to those folks, what can you offer to
24 allay concerns that your previous political
25 activities will not be infused into your judicial

1 activities should the commission deem you
2 qualified in the General Assembly elect you to
3 this position? How can the public have
4 confidence that while you may have engaged in
5 political activity and partisan political
6 activity at times, that if you were to put on the
7 black robe, they can have faith that you will be
8 an unbiased and impartial Minister of Justice?

9 MR. WHEELER: That's a very fair question. And we
10 always know there's likely to be some question
11 when someone has been a legislator. It's not a
12 new thing. It's happened for years before. But
13 to be -- before I was a legislator, I was a
14 lawyer. I believe in the rule of law above all
15 else, whether I like the way of statutes written
16 or don't like it, or whatever the policy position
17 behind it may have been, once it's passed, once
18 it's enacted, once it's law, wearing that robe,
19 your job is to uphold, enforce and apply that
20 law. That is something I believe since I was 18
21 or 19, before I went to law school, but
22 certainly, as long as I've been practicing law.
23 And to make that distinction, I would say the
24 last year has equipped me to better answer that
25 question. You know, I left in -- and again, I

1 want to say like January the 17th, it was the
2 first week of session, I definitely remember
3 that. And knowing that -- what you just asked in
4 that question, knowing that was something that
5 would come up later, because it was no secret why
6 I left. The opportunity was going to present
7 itself, and it was either catch the boat or the
8 boat's leaving and it can't be both ways. I've
9 really have made an effort, sometimes I feel bad
10 about it but I know lots of you all, and have
11 lots of other friends that I've not called for a
12 year and won't be. Locally, there have been
13 matters that came up that people may have come
14 and asked for my thoughts on and I've said, I
15 don't do that anymore. I'm not part of that
16 anymore. A line has to be drawn in the sand. I
17 did that. I loved that when I did it but that's
18 not what I'm doing anymore. And I've already
19 implemented that. Some of you that are in the
20 same field probably look forward to the day when
21 you can say that as well. So it's not all bad.
22 Don't feel bad for me. But it has to be a firm
23 line. I'm not a policy wonk anymore. But I'm
24 past -- I'm past that. Is that a fair answer,
25 Mr. Caskey, or a full answer?

1 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I think that's question fair -- I
2 think it's fair answer. I think that's a
3 question for really you to answer. I just want
4 to present the opportunity to you. I must
5 confess to some future fantasy world in which I
6 can honestly say I have nothing to do with your
7 roads so I can understand the satisfaction that
8 must arise when leaving behind politics.

9 MR. WHEELER: People would ask. I say I don't know, I
10 don't watch, I don't have opinions about that.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Stavrinakis.

12 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 Mr. Wheeler, welcome and thank you for offering
14 yourself. I more want to follow up on the
15 question you asked. I mean, I think we've got
16 what 30 something candidates that we're going
17 through this process with. I think of those, two
18 former legislators. This issue gets bandied
19 about a lot. It's probably more is made of it
20 than you know, probably -- my opinion than
21 probably should be in most cases. But I will
22 tell you that because it's out there, I think
23 about it as well, just like obviously you have in
24 posing the question. And I will tell you what I
25 look for, and what matters to me, having served

1 with the two that are part of this process, who
2 were former legislators, you know, how you
3 separate that, how you how we can be comfortable
4 that they will separate that is integrity. And I
5 believe that former Speaker Lucas is a man of
6 integrity. And that's why I was comfortable that
7 he would, if elected, wear the robe
8 independently, and exercise discretion and
9 judgment appropriately. And having served with
10 Mr. Wheeler, I wholeheartedly -- my experience
11 with him is he's a man of integrity, and the same
12 thing. And that's important to me in trying to
13 evaluate what, again, I think is something that's
14 important, you know, that we are aware of and
15 flush out because we're not even -- you know,
16 those of us on this panel that are legislators
17 are not going to be legislators forever. We want
18 now and especially in the future, a judiciary
19 that's independent and that will act accordingly.
20 And so it's important to me. And that's how just
21 for the public, Mr. Wheeler, whoever, our
22 colleagues here, that's how I, you know,
23 primarily -- I mean, you know, obviously, you got
24 to evaluate all of the candidates on their
25 intellect, qualifications. And, you know, that's

1 important to me. So just I just wanted to throw
2 my two cents in there. I think in looking at
3 that, you know, how will you feel comfortable,
4 integrity matters, boy, so much because that's a
5 pressure. And I'm sure, you know, whether a
6 judge really feels it or not, depends on partly
7 on that, that characteristic. So just my two
8 cents. Mr. Wheeler, I also say to you that, you
9 know, we sit in the House, we sat in a big
10 chamber, there's a lot of people, it's a crazy
11 atmosphere at times. And you were always
12 professional, and dignified, and courteous, and
13 prepared, and, you know, intellectual, but also
14 passionate. And if you bring those same
15 qualities that you brought, you know, and I'm
16 sure you did the same thing as a lawyer, outside
17 of being a judge, I think that you'll -- you'll
18 do a great job as a judge and appreciate you
19 offering yourself for service.

20 MR. WHEELER: Thank you so much.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, Representative
22 Stavrinakis. I agree with what you've said. I
23 think I have tried to ask the hard questions to
24 every candidate and for that purpose, because
25 they don't get to see -- the public doesn't get

1 to see all that. They don't get to see the
2 comments here. I'll share some of them with you
3 that I think are telling. Not sure I've ever
4 known a lawyer with a more even temperament than
5 Will Wheeler. Fair and just, cares deeply about
6 people. Reputation and character impeccable,
7 brilliant, incredibly respected. And again,
8 dozens of comments, exceptional temperament,
9 reasonable, intelligent, tireless work ethic.
10 And I say those to you primarily so that you take
11 with you knowledge that you have earned a stellar
12 reputation as a lawyer. I presume these people
13 are not saying this because of your political
14 activities. They are all couched in terms of
15 reflection on your legal career. And again, as
16 I've said to others, people on the internet don't
17 have to say nice things about you. They can say
18 mean, unbridledly, caustic things and they chose
19 to say good things about you because of the work
20 you've done. And I hope you take that with you.
21 Because as Representative Stavrinakis alluded,
22 there are, as you well know, the naysayers who
23 don't burden themselves with information and
24 knowledge about individuals, much less the state
25 and its history of recognizing and empowering

1 people to serve in different capacities. And so
2 I thank you for doing that. I appreciate your
3 commitment to public service. And with that,
4 this will conclude this portion of the screening
5 process. I do need to take a moment, though, to
6 remind you that pursuant to the commission's
7 evaluative criteria, the commission expects a
8 chance to follow the letter as well as the spirit
9 of our ethics laws, and that we would view any
10 violation or appearance of impropriety as very
11 serious and potentially deserving of heavy weight
12 in our screening deliberations. And on that
13 note, as you know, the record will remain open
14 until the formal release of the qualifications
15 report and should the need arise, we can call you
16 back in to have a further discussion if that was
17 so warranted. You understand that?

18 MR. WHEELER: Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Again, that will
20 conclude this portion of the screening process.
21 Thank you for your service to the state. And
22 thank you for offering for judicial service as
23 well.

24 MR. WHEELER: Thank you all. Have a great day.

25 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Everybody good to

1 move to the next candidate? All right, we will
2 stand at ease for just a moment as the next
3 candidate comes in.

4 (Off the Record)

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ladies and gentlemen, we will
6 proceed now to our next screening. Before us we
7 have Judge DeBerry, who is a candidate for
8 reelection to Seat 3 in the 12th Judicial Circuit
9 Circuit Court. Do I have all that right, Judge?

10 JUDGE DEBERRY: Yes, sir.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would please
12 raise your right hand.

13 WHEREUPON:

14 HARRY STEVEN DEBERRY, being duly sworn and
15 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
16 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would please
18 state your full name for the record.

19 JUDGE DEBERRY: Harry Steven DeBerry the Fourth.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: There should be some documents in
21 front of you. If you would take a moment to look
22 at those.

23 JUDGE DEBERRY: Yes, sir.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are those the personal data
25 questionnaire and sworn statement that you have

1 submitted to the commission?

2 JUDGE DEBERRY: Yes, sir. Appear to be.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are there any changes or updates
4 need to be made?

5 JUDGE DEBERRY: No, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you have any objection to our
7 including those in the record?

8 JUDGE DEBERRY: No, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Let me give staff just a
10 minute to do that.

11 JUDGE DEBERRY: All right.

12 (EXHIBIT NO. 5 MARKED FOR
13 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
14 PDQ)

15 (EXHIBIT NO. 6 MARKED FOR
16 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (2 pages)
17 Amendment)

18 (EXHIBIT NO. 7 MARKED FOR
19 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (7 pages)
20 Sworn Statement)

21 (EXHIBIT NO. 8 MARKED FOR
22 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
23 Amendment)

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. The Judicial Merit
25 Selection Commission has thoroughly investigated

1 your qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry
2 is focused on the nine evaluative criteria and
3 has included a ballot box survey, a thorough
4 study of your application materials, a
5 verification of your compliance with state ethics
6 laws, search of newspaper articles in which your
7 name appears, study of previous screenings, and a
8 check for economic conflicts of interest. We've
9 received no affidavits filed in opposition to
10 your election. No witnesses are present to
11 testify. And if you would like to make a brief
12 opening statement, I'd be happy to recognize you
13 or go straight to staff counsel for some
14 questions.

15 JUDGE DEBERRY: Thank you. I'll waive that
16 opportunity.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, Ms. Wilkinson.

18 EXAMINATION

19 BY MS. WILKINSON:

20 **Q. Good morning, Judge DeBerry.**

21 A. Good morning.

22 **Q. After serving four years on circuit court bench, why**
23 **do you want to continue to serve as a circuit court**
24 **judge?**

25 A. I just really want to continue what I've been able to

1 start and certainly had a tougher transition than I
2 anticipated. But since getting some time under my belt
3 and on the bench, I certainly feel like I'm well
4 suited for the position, able to help people and just
5 be as fair and available and accessible as possible.

6 **Q. What do you think your reputation is among attorneys**
7 **who practice before you?**

8 A. Well, I certainly hope it's very good. I don't have
9 any reason to believe it's not. But certainly,
10 sometimes, as we all do, I worry sometimes. But, you
11 know, I was encouraged somewhat by my ballot box
12 responses and learned very early on in this process of
13 being on the bench that you can't really expect an
14 honest answer when you ask people how you're doing
15 because they always tell you the exact same thing. So
16 I just quit -- I just quit asking and hope for the
17 best.

18 **Q. Judge DeBerry, the commission received 40 ballot box**
19 **surveys regarding you with 34 additional comments.**
20 **The ballot box survey, for example, contain the**
21 **following positive comments. Judge DeBerry is one of**
22 **the finest judges that I know he has a superb**
23 **understanding of the law and yet he also has the**
24 **ability to convey rulings in a way that makes sense**
25 **even to non lawyers in the courtroom. He is an asset**

1 to the circuit court bench in this state. I have
2 personally witnessed Judge DeBerry deal with difficult
3 pro se parties and difficult situations lawyers have
4 created with thoughtfulness and care. He has handled
5 some very unusual and tricky situations with patience
6 and care and made the right call every time he is a
7 credit to the bench. My first trial as an attorney in
8 Horry County was in front of Judge DeBerry. I found
9 his demeanor from the bench to be exactly what an
10 advocate and party would want from their sitting
11 judge. One that does not exhibit bias, gives fair
12 opportunity to both sides when arguing on an issue,
13 and delivering his ruling with courtesy and compassion
14 for both sides. Six of the written comments expressed
15 concerns. Four of those comments indicated a pattern
16 of concern regarding your ability to handle complex
17 civil cases. How would you respond to that concern?

18 A. Well, I certainly understand that concern and
19 appreciate that concern. And as a solo practitioner,
20 you know, it was hard to dedicate all of your time to
21 one maybe complex case. And from time to time when we
22 encounter them on the bench, certainly I'm going to do
23 everything I can to make sure I get better in that
24 area. Certainly, I feel like it's more of a
25 preparation thing than a capability issue. Certainly,

1 some of these cases could have been litigated, by the
2 time they get to trial or otherwise, for years and
3 years, and there may have been multiple judges that
4 issue rulings, cases could go up and back on appeal.
5 So I just think it's learning how to focus and prepare
6 for the case at hand and do the best we can in the
7 time that we have.

8 MS. WILKINSON: Regarding the Citizens Committee
9 report, I would note that the Pee Dee Citizens
10 Committee found Judge DeBerry to be well
11 qualified in the areas of ethical fitness,
12 professional and academic ability, character,
13 reputation, experience and judicial temperament,
14 and qualified in the areas of constitutional
15 qualifications, physical health and mental
16 stability. The Citizens Committee did not have
17 any additional comments.

18 **Q. Judge DeBerry, I do have a few housekeeping issues.**
19 **JMSC procedural Rule 17 includes a prohibition of any**
20 **candidate from attending or watching any portion of**
21 **the live stream or recordings of the public hearings**
22 **of this cycle until all hearings are concluded. Have**
23 **you watched or listened to any of these hearings**
24 **before your appearance today?**

25 **A. No, ma'am.**

1 Q. Has any other person relayed any information about any
2 of the proceedings before this commission to you?

3 A. No, ma'am.

4 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
5 contacted any members of the commission about your
6 candidacy?

7 A. No, ma'am.

8 Q. Are you familiar with section 2-19-70, including the
9 limitations on contacting members of the General
10 Assembly regarding your screening?

11 A. Yes, ma'am.

12 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
13 sought or received the pledge of any legislator either
14 prior to this date or pending the outcome of your
15 screening?

16 A. No, ma'am.

17 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
18 the General Assembly on your behalf? Or are you aware
19 of anyone attempting to intervene in this process on
20 your behalf?

21 A. No, ma'am.

22 Q. Have you reviewed and do you understand the
23 commission's guidelines on pledging and South Carolina
24 code 2-19-70(E)?

25 A. Yes, ma'am.

1 MS. WILKINSON: I would note for the record that any
2 concerns raised during the investigation
3 regarding Judge DeBerry were incorporated into
4 the questioning of him today. Mr. Chairman, I
5 have no further questions.

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. Representative
7 Jordan.

8 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good
9 morning, Judge.

10 JUDGE DEBERRY: Good morning.

11 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: I'm trying to remember. I
12 think you practiced law for about 15 years before
13 you took the bench. Does that sound about right?

14 JUDGE DEBERRY: Yes. That's about right.

15 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: So I have a theory and I've
16 asked candidates over the years this question.
17 So one of the things that I look at that I think
18 you can -- and this being from the same area, I'm
19 in the courthouse a lot. But one of the things
20 that I look at is how the people in the courtroom
21 talk about you, the judge, before you come in the
22 courtroom and after you leave the courtroom. In
23 your experience as a lawyer who I think tried a
24 lot of cases, correct?

25 JUDGE DEBERRY: Yes, sir.

1 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Is that a fair sort of
2 measurement of perhaps character acumen of some
3 sort of a judge?

4 JUDGE DEBERRY: Certainly is. I wish I could be there
5 sometimes, but I haven't figured that out. But I
6 remember those days and certainly the
7 anticipation leading up to the judge taking the
8 bench and which judge it was and what was going
9 on. That's certainly a good indication amongst
10 the bar.

11 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: I mean, we -- I'm sure you've
12 seen like I have some judges, perhaps that
13 everybody's running for the exits, you know,
14 looking -- ducking for cover kind of thing. I
15 guess would it surprise you to know that you're
16 regarded extraordinarily high amongst not just
17 the lawyers, but you know, one of the other
18 things I look to the folks that work in the
19 courtroom, the security folks, the clerk folks
20 speak highly of you. Would that surprise you?

21 JUDGE DEBERRY: Well, I don't know how to answer that.
22 But I hope to -- I mean, I try to -- I try to do
23 everything I can to make everybody feel
24 comfortable and welcome and be what we need to
25 do.

1 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: And then I don't want to sort
2 of let you off the hook. I do want to address
3 the -- being from Florence, I'm not sure what a
4 complex civil case is. Yeah, every case. As I
5 remember, did you have a specialty or were you a
6 general practice?

7 JUDGE DEBERRY: No. I mean, the only thing I ceased
8 doing very early on in my practice was family
9 law. But other than that, I kept going in pretty
10 well every direction. I mean, that's what I was
11 trying to say earlier. You know, I never -- I'm
12 not sure if it would have been fortunate or not
13 but the more complex cases I had, certainly I
14 would associate with other lawyers who might
15 specialize in whatever field that might have
16 been. So that's kind of the way I had to run my
17 practice. Because if you dedicate everything in
18 one -- in one area, then where I was and what I
19 was doing, then you'd have problems somewhere
20 else.

21 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Well, I suppose there's pros
22 and cons to everything. But I was thinking about
23 with the prior candidate, Mr. Wheeler, who comes
24 from kind of rural South Carolina. One of the
25 benefits is when you're a general practice, you

1 get to see a tremendous amount of different
2 things that again, if you're a specialist in that
3 field, you're perhaps an expert in that field,
4 and I take nothing from those folks. But as a
5 general practice, you're going to touch and see
6 and live through your cases, a very broad array
7 of types of law and circumstances. Has that been
8 your experience? Has that benefitted you, I
9 guess, would be my question.

10 JUDGE DEBERRY: Certainly I think it's benefitted.

11 Being able to truly sit on the bench and not --
12 and not -- I can't think of anything that I've
13 encountered that I've never -- never heard of or
14 been a part of in some in some way. So I think
15 so.

16 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Thank you, Judge.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator Rankin.

18 SENATOR RANKIN: Judge, how you doing?

19 JUDGE DEBERRY: Good morning.

20 SENATOR RANKIN: How you doing?

21 JUDGE DEBERRY: Good. Thank you.

22 SENATOR RANKIN: What is the question that you get? Or
23 rather, the answer to that question that you
24 know, they don't mean what they're saying?

25 JUDGE DEBERRY: Well, it's just always positive. You

1 know, you're doing a great job. You know,
2 couldn't -- couldn't be happier. And somebody
3 told me one time, if you're a judge, and you
4 really want to see who you're around, tell a joke
5 that's not funny. And then the only ones that
6 don't laugh, maybe you can have some confidence
7 in.

8 SENATOR RANKIN: Those are your -- those are your true
9 judges, right?

10 JUDGE DEBERRY: I understand.

11 SENATOR RANKIN: I want to touch on the complicated or
12 complex litigation issue that was raised. And
13 again, we don't want to overstate the outliers
14 here. But I was involved in a case that, without
15 a doubt was complex, because it involved high
16 powered defense lawyers, other than John T. Lay.
17 Many, many people touching a case. And a matter
18 that you discerned, and ruled in a way that I
19 think, not to the surprise of anyone the correct
20 way, but more importantly, to an issue that no
21 one had really even talked about that was truly
22 an underlying part of the case. And so that not
23 just my experience, but watching someone and
24 reading rather, either this person's got a crush
25 on you, or some unhealthy desire to follow you,

1 but they write that they've read transcripts of
2 some of your more difficult trials, as you've
3 navigated between the fire from both sides and
4 issued rulings that are both comprehensive and
5 fair. To the point, perhaps of my seatmate here,
6 the delivery of your rulings often brings the
7 tone of animosity down, so that the trial can
8 continue without issue. That is a gift and a
9 style. And is that by design or is that just who
10 you are?

11 JUDGE DEBERRY: Well, I appreciate the question. I
12 can tell you that when people -- when you can
13 feel people's blood pressure go up, it makes me
14 nervous. So I try to defuse situations every
15 chance I can. I can remember early on, it was a
16 criminal term in Horry County, and a bunch of
17 lawyers that were about to try a case, they came
18 to chambers, and they were all standing up and
19 they were all -- you could tell tensions were
20 high. And I said well, first thing we're all
21 going to have to do is sit down. And we're going
22 to just have to have another conversation before
23 we talk about this. I really thought that
24 helped defuse the situation. But I certainly try
25 to do that. I like everybody to feel

1 comfortable. And sometimes I'm successful,
2 sometimes I'm not.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: As you have completed this term among
4 surprises, good and bad, and suggestions to us
5 about this process and how we can make the bench
6 better.

7 JUDGE DEBERRY: You know, I mean, it certainly is the
8 process and I have much confidence in it. I
9 think the people who really understand the way
10 the state elects its judges and the product of
11 judges that we have, notwithstanding myself, but
12 some of my -- the people that I respect the
13 absolute most in the state are fellow judges, who
14 I've known and practiced before for a long time,
15 and now are a colleague on the bench, certainly
16 gives me confidence in the system. I wish that
17 we could just focus on what we do. But, you
18 know, we have to hear and see everything as well.
19 But we do the best we can. And just believe
20 there's confidence in the system.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator from Richland.

22 SENATOR WALKER: Just very briefly, Mr. Chair. Good
23 to see you, Judge.

24 JUDGE DEBERRY: Good morning.

25 SENATOR WALKER: I had the privilege of appearing

1 before you, I think just over a year ago, and you
2 didn't know who I was from a can of paint. I
3 think at that time, I hadn't been elected to the
4 Senate. I was still serving in local government
5 here in Richland County. And, you know, as to I
6 guess, the criticism or critique about complex
7 legal issues, or at least the manner in which you
8 grapple with them, I had a complex legal issue
9 before you as well. Perhaps not as complex as
10 Senator Rankin's, but it was a wrongful death
11 case and it was a minor settlement hearing. And
12 there were some issues and frankly, I thought you
13 were -- you handled it very -- in an excellent
14 manner. And I didn't come away from that
15 experience with any misgivings about you or any
16 reservations about your ability as a judge.
17 Second thing I would say is no one can be
18 conversant in everything, right? In a perfect
19 world, you would -- we would nominate judges who
20 have experience in contractual law, criminal
21 defense, criminal prosecution, maybe someone
22 who's handled wrongful death cases. And perhaps
23 there is, I guess, the prototypical candidate,
24 right, that's out there. But most folks, you
25 know, that, you know, come before this body, you

1 know, they have experience practicing law, but
2 again, they're not conversant in every area. For
3 me it's making sure that you have candidates who
4 are smart, who are nimble, and who understand the
5 law. And I'll say this again, I think the onus
6 is on lawyers, you know, to make an argument, you
7 know, before the judge, provide the pertinent
8 case law, reference to pertinent rules of
9 evidence and procedure, and try to take the judge
10 -- lead the judge rather to where you want him or
11 her to go. As long as you have judges -- or
12 candidates who have, you know, an understanding
13 of the law and, and they're able to comprehend,
14 then for me that's more than enough solace. Just
15 based on my experience with you, you have that in
16 spades. So thank you for being willing to do
17 this again.

18 JUDGE DEBERRY: Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, Judge, I think that will
20 bring us to the conclusion of this portion of the
21 screening process. Certainly great to see you.
22 I do need to take a moment, though, to remind you
23 that pursuant to the commission's evaluative
24 criteria, the commission expects candidates to
25 follow the spirit as well as the letter of the

1 ethics laws and that we would view any violation
2 or appearance of impropriety as very serious and
3 potentially deserving of heavy weight in our
4 screening deliberations. Further, the record
5 will remain open until the formal release of the
6 report of qualifications. And should there be
7 cause we would have the ability to call you back
8 for further dialogue if that were necessary. You
9 understand that?

10 JUDGE DEBERRY: Yes, sir.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Again, thank you for
12 your service to the state. Thank you for
13 offering for continued service and wish you well
14 for the for the rest of your day.

15 JUDGE DEBERRY: All right. Thank you all.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, Judge. We have we have
17 two more candidates on the morning portion of our
18 agenda. Seeing no flags or signals for SOS,
19 we'll proceed with the next candidate.

20 (Off the record)

21
22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Good morning. we will continue now
23 with our screening process. Before us we have
24 Melissa Inzerillo. She's screening for Seat 2 of
25 the 16th Judicial Circuit and the Circuit Court.

1 Do I have all that right?

2 MS. INZERILLO: Yes sir, you do.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, if you would please raise
4 your right hand.

5 WHEREUPON:

6 MELISSA ANN INZERILLO, being duly sworn and
7 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
8 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, if you would please state
10 your full name for the record.

11 MS. INZERILLO: Melissa Ann Inzerillo.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ms. Inzerillo, there should be some
13 documents in front of you. If you would please,
14 take a moment to review those. Those are the
15 personal data questionnaire and the sworn
16 statement that you've submitted to the
17 commission, correct?

18 MS. INZERILLO: Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are there any changes or updates
20 that need to be made to those?

21 MS. INZERILLO: No, sir.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you have any objection to our
23 including those in the record?

24 MS. INZERILLO: No, sir.

25 (EXHIBIT NO. 9 MARKED FOR

1 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
2 PDQ)
3 (EXHIBIT NO. 10 MARKED FOR
4 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
5 Sworn Statement)

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Let me give staff a
7 moment to mark those for inclusion in the record.
8 All right, the Judicial Merit Selection
9 Commission has thoroughly investigated your
10 qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry has
11 focused on the nine evaluative criteria and has
12 included a ballot box survey, a thorough study of
13 your application materials, a review of newspaper
14 articles in which your name appears, verification
15 of your compliance with state ethics laws, a
16 study of previous screenings, and a check for
17 economic conflicts of interest. We've received
18 no affidavits filed in opposition to your
19 election and no witnesses are present to testify.
20 Before giving you an opportunity to make a brief
21 statement, should you wish to do so, I noticed
22 that two smiling faces have followed you here
23 into the room and wanted to give you an
24 opportunity to introduce them to the commission
25 or us to them, however one does introductions.

1 If you so choose or if you want to ignore this
2 awkward moment, we can do that and move on with
3 questions.

4 MS. INZERILLO: I will introduce them if that's all
5 right, Mr. Chairman.

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Yes ma'am, please.

7 MS. INZERILLO: Here with me today is my mother, Susan
8 Inzerillo, as well as my friend and colleague,
9 Barton O'Kelly.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Welcome, glad to have you here.

11 Thank you very much. As I said, Ms. Inzerillo,
12 I'd be happy to hear a brief opening statement if
13 you'd like to make one. Otherwise, I would
14 recognize staff counsel to begin questions.

15 MS. INZERILLO: I would just like to take a moment to
16 thank everyone for taking the time to speak with
17 me today, but I'm ready for questions.

18 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Wonderful. Ms. Crater?

19 MS. CRATER: I will note for the record that based on
20 the testimony contained in the candidate's PDQ,
21 which has been included in the record with the
22 candidate's consent, Ms. Inzerillo meets the
23 constitutional and statutory requirements for
24 this position regarding age, residence, and years
25 of practice.

EXAMINATION

BY MS. CRATER:

Q. Ms. Inzerillo, how do you feel your legal and professional experience thus far renders you qualified and will assist you to be an effective circuit court judge?

A. I feel my legal and professional experience will assist me in two ways. The first is I am a long-time trial practitioner. I have been in courtrooms not only in York and Union counties, but also in Orangeburg and Charleston counties. I have tried cases, I have resolved cases, negotiated cases, and I'm very, very comfortable in a courtroom. I understand the rules and procedures that any case in a courtroom would entail. In all my years as a trial practitioner, I have also watched judges and learned from judges how they manage their courtroom, how they interact with staff, how they manage the day-to-day operations such as ensuring jurors are comfortable, ensuring that jurors are assisted in a timely manner. I have also watched them help attorneys, for example, that need to get to other courts or other counties have their cases resolved in their courtrooms. So I've spent many years learning not only the nuts and bolts of being a trial attorney, but also learning

1 from judges. Additionally, since 2020, I've been the
2 administrative deputy for the 16th Circuit Public
3 Defender's Office. In this role, I have basically
4 taken care of the day-to-day operations of my office.
5 That can include personnel management, scheduling,
6 docketing, and various administrative tasks. So I
7 believe those skills will assist me as well in
8 managing a courtroom if I were to become judge.

9 **Q. Ms. Inzerillo, the commission received 198 ballot box**
10 **surveys regarding you with 59 additional comments.**
11 **The ballot box surveys, for example, contain the**
12 **following positive comments: Would be an excellent**
13 **circuit court judge. Smart, fair, impartial, and a**
14 **great temperament. And also, would be an excellent**
15 **circuit court judge. Smart, fair, impartial, with a**
16 **great temperament. Ten of the comments express**
17 **concerns. First, several of the comments express**
18 **concerns about your ability to remain impartial. What**
19 **would you offer as a response to these concerns?**

20 **A.** I believe that concern may arise from my long-standing
21 practice in criminal defense. I've been a public
22 defender for the majority of my career. However, I
23 can assure this commission that my role as a judge, my
24 understanding of that role, requires me to be fair and
25 impartial, and I understand that. As a trial

1 practitioner, I appear in front of judges, and I want
2 them to be fair and impartial in my cases, and I would
3 act no differently.

4 **Q. Second, several of the comments raise concerns about**
5 **your lack of civil experience. What response would**
6 **you offer to these concerns?**

7 A. I began my legal career practicing civil law as an
8 associate in a firm in Columbia. I did employment
9 defense as well as immigration law, and it has been a
10 while since I've done that job, but that job did give
11 me a great foundation understanding not only the civil
12 rules and procedures but also the logistics of
13 building a civil case, such as conducting depositions
14 and summary judgment motions. While it has been a
15 while, I have tried to reacquaint myself with much of
16 the civil law. I have reviewed civil procedure, the
17 civil rules. I have attended CLEs to further my
18 knowledge of the civil issues of the day. For
19 example, I attended the bar convention in January and
20 took classes there that I thought would assist my
21 understanding of various aspects of civil law, and I
22 have attended a class that my local bar put on about
23 the new tort reform statute that takes effect in
24 January. In addition to that, I have been watching
25 court. I didn't just want to look at the civil law,

1 at the black and white law on paper. I wanted to know
2 what motions would commonly come before a judge on the
3 civil docket, what issues would be presented, and how
4 those judges would handle those issues, and so I've
5 spent as much time as I can watching civil cases, not
6 only trials, but a scheduling day to see how a judge
7 schedules matters for trial, for example, and I've
8 watched many judges that have come through our
9 circuit, but I've spent more time watching Judge
10 McKinnon and learning from Judge McKinnon, who has an
11 extensive background doing civil matters.

12 Q. I would note that the Upstate Citizens Committee
13 reported that Ms. Inzerillo is qualified in the
14 evaluative criteria of constitutional qualifications,
15 physical health, and mental stability. The committee
16 found her well qualified in the evaluative criteria of
17 ethical fitness, professional and academic ability,
18 character, reputation, experience, and judicial
19 temperament. The committee stated in summary, Ms.
20 Inzerillo has a demonstrated record of public service,
21 deep experience in criminal law matters, and a clear
22 appreciation of the authority and responsibility of a
23 circuit court judge. Like Ms. Shelton, the panel
24 recognizes that Ms. Inzerillo lacks civil law
25 experience, but believes that she has the ability and

1 the commitment to acquire that quickly. We believe
2 she would make a fine circuit court judge. I just
3 have a few housekeeping issues. JMSC procedural Rule
4 17 includes a prohibition of any candidate from
5 attending or watching any portion of the live stream
6 or recordings of the public hearings of this cycle
7 until after all hearings are concluded. Have you
8 watched or listened to any of those hearings before
9 your appearance today?

10 A. No, ma'am.

11 Q. Has any other person relayed information about any of
12 the proceedings before this commission to you?

13 A. No, ma'am.

14 Q. Ms. Inzerillo, are you aware that as a judicial
15 candidate you are bound by the Code of Judicial
16 Conduct as found in Rule 501 of the South Carolina
17 Appellate Court Rules?

18 A. Yes, ma'am.

19 Q. And, Ms. Inzerillo, since submitting your letter of
20 intent, have you contacted any members of the
21 commission about your candidacy?

22 A. No, ma'am.

23 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
24 sought or received the pledge of any legislator either
25 prior to this date or pending the outcome of your

1 screening?

2 A. No, ma'am.

3 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including the
4 limitations on contacting members of the General
5 Assembly regarding your screening?

6 A. Yes, ma'am.

7 Q. And have you asked any third parties to contact
8 members of the General Assembly on your behalf, or are
9 you aware of anyone attempting to intervene in this
10 process on your behalf?

11 A. No, ma'am.

12 Q. And have you reviewed and do you understand the
13 commission's guidelines on pledging and South Carolina
14 Code Section 2-19-70(E)?

15 A. Yes, ma'am.

16 MS. CRATER: And Mr. Chairman, I would -- oh, and I
17 just want to correct that this was the Piedmont
18 Citizens Committee that conducted it. Thank you.
19 Mr. Chairman, I would note for the record that
20 any concerns raised during the investigation by
21 staff regarding the candidate were incorporated
22 into the questioning of the candidate today. Mr.
23 Chairman, I have no further questions.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. Members of the
25 commission have questions for the candidate?

1 Perhaps while others are -- Senator Walker.

2 SENATOR WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ms. Inzerillo,
3 I said that correctly, right?

4 MS. INZERILLO: Yes sir, you did.

5 SENATOR WALKER: Firstly, let me just acknowledge your
6 years of service to the state. You have been in
7 the Public Defender's Office for how long now?

8 MS. INZERILLO: Over 20 years. About 23 years or so.

9 SENATOR WALKER: Twenty-three years. And you may not
10 know this about me, but I started my legal career
11 at the Public Defender's Office here in Richland
12 County. And so I am intimately familiar with the
13 challenges and the struggles of that job. I
14 didn't have your patience and bandwidth, so I was
15 only there for a little over a year. But that
16 experience was an indelible one. It was
17 invaluable. And there's still a part of my
18 current legal practice that is dedicated to
19 indigent defense. And one of the comments that I
20 read here in the ballot box survey, and it's
21 probably the most salient to me, sticks out to me
22 the most, but it reads: Melissa is not qualified
23 to be a circuit court judge. She has been a
24 public defender for the majority of her legal
25 career and has become some -- what some rather

1 would call a true believer. That comment really
2 bothers me. I think what people don't understand
3 about public defenders is they provide access to
4 justice for many individuals across our state who
5 otherwise could not afford to hire, say, a
6 Representative Leon Stavrinakis or Senator
7 Overture Walker or a Representative Micah Caskey.
8 And in that role, you have to keep the government
9 honest. It's not your job to just be a rubber
10 stamp for the prosecution or to just roll over.
11 Just this morning, Senator Campsen and I, we were
12 talking about attending an event this evening, a
13 lecture over at the law school. And the person
14 who's giving that lecture is an authority on the
15 Constitution and the importance of checks and
16 balances in our system of democracy. And I think
17 when it comes to our judiciary, our judicial
18 system, rather, people forget that criminal
19 defense lawyers, public defenders, you all are
20 lawyers, people forget that oftentimes, right?

21 MS. INZERILLO: Yes, sir.

22 SENATOR WALKER: But you serve as a check on the
23 government. It is your job to keep the
24 government honest. And if we don't have that
25 zealous advocacy, at least that branch, the third

1 branch of our government, it fails. And so just
2 know that I appreciate what you do. I appreciate
3 your service. But I'll also give you a chance to
4 respond to, you know, that comment where someone
5 feels that your 20 plus years of public service
6 somehow disqualifies you from ascending to the
7 bench.

8 MS. INZERILLO: Well, Senator Overture, I really
9 appreciate those comments about public defenders.
10 And in response to that comment, I would say that
11 I have been doing my job a long time. And part
12 of the appreciation I have gotten over the years
13 is a true appreciation of our criminal justice
14 system. The way our court systems work is
15 amazing to me. The fact that the state has to
16 come in, prove someone guilty, that person has to
17 do nothing to prove themselves innocent, that
18 they are entitled to having 12 people they don't
19 know have to unanimously agree that they are
20 guilty and have the right to go in front of a
21 fair and impartial judge to basically, as people
22 like to say, call balls and strikes and not be on
23 the side of one another. To me, that is the most
24 amazing system I think we could envision. And I
25 have a role in that. And in that role, I work

1 hard for my clients. I am an attorney that does
2 my job to the best of my ability. But I am also
3 well versed in the system itself. Part of my job
4 is advising clients when it may be best to take a
5 plea, when it may be best to go to trial. Some
6 of that involves advising clients to take very
7 high offers. So there is a reality and a realism
8 in my job that I am extremely accustomed to. So
9 I think the true believer has sort of an
10 emotional connotation that I would be unable to
11 separate myself from believing and not be able to
12 be objective and not understanding how the system
13 works and appreciate how the system works. As a
14 judge, I would no longer be an advocate. My job
15 would be to be neutral, to be fair and impartial
16 on both sides. And as I indicated a few minutes
17 ago, as a trial attorney, I expect and appreciate
18 that in our judges. And I would certainly be
19 that same kind of judge.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ms. Inzerillo, while others may be
21 contemplating what, if any, questions they may
22 have, I would begin by first thanking you for
23 that last response to Senator Walker's questions.
24 I appreciate everything you've said. You've
25 distinguished yourself in your career such that

1 the comments, generally, feedback from the bar,
2 feedback from the ballot box, all put you at
3 superlative levels of performance as a lawyer in
4 the criminal context. But as our system at the
5 circuit court level in this state does not
6 segregate judges by criminal matters and civil
7 matters, there is clearly a dearth of civil
8 experience, at least relative to your criminal
9 experience. And this commission is charged with
10 the responsibility of determining qualification
11 pursuant to the nine evaluative criteria. And
12 being familiar with your previous candidacy and
13 all the materials that I recited earlier, I will
14 tell you I am satisfied that you were qualified
15 to be a judge. But if I could be so bold as to
16 make a recommendation or suggestion to you, it
17 would be that you undertake a serious and
18 deliberative effort to bolster your civil bona
19 fides through things that you mentioned. And you
20 said all of the right things, but I think I would
21 be remiss if I didn't underscore the importance
22 of doing those things like CLEs and sitting with
23 Judge McKinnon, who is a fantastic, brilliant
24 jurist. He often presents or is presenting a CLE
25 just before Senator Walker in January at the bar

1 convention, if you haven't heard. Judge McKinnon
2 does a fantastic job there. But it is incredibly
3 important because while there are certain
4 transferable skills between those portions of the
5 law, as you know, because you have practiced the
6 civil law, there is no doubt still an opportunity
7 to deepen that experience. And I would suggest
8 to you that those are opportunities you could
9 avail yourself of in the very immediate short-
10 term. Because again, our charge here is simply
11 qualification. The determination of election by
12 the General Assembly, I think you may be very
13 well aided by undertaking some of those efforts.

14 MS. INZERILLO: Yes, sir.

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. End soliloquy. I'm
16 looking around to see if there are any other
17 questions or comments from members of the
18 commission.

19 SENATOR RANKIN: If I may.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator from Horry.

21 SENATOR RANKIN: And very briefly, and I remember you
22 too, as the Chairman is referencing those of us
23 who were here before, impressed with your
24 candidacy and was impressed last time. Again,
25 share the sentiment here of basically 100 percent

1 to zero percent. But as we know, and as the dear
2 folks from your part of the world and the fine
3 solicitor from your part of the world seems to
4 spend more time in that court there in criminal
5 matters and less civil. And so that does seem to
6 be perhaps, though not designated as the General
7 Sessions guru, the demand of our circuit courts
8 in this state, without a doubt. My question, as
9 briefly as you can, not trying to belabor this, -

10 -

11 MS. INZERILLO: Sure.

12 SENATOR RANKIN: -- but what have you learned and what
13 -- you may have broached this earlier. Forgive
14 me if you've already covered it. But what have
15 you learned since you were screened favorably the
16 last time?

17 MS. INZERILLO: About civil law or just in general?

18 SENATOR RANKIN: This -- your desire to be -- to run
19 again, and what has either sharpened your desire
20 -- what is, again, what have you done to prepare
21 for a better, hopefully, result for you this
22 time?

23 MS. INZERILLO: Well, I decided to run again because I
24 really wanted to be a judge. And certainly with
25 that desire coming more into focus, I have tried

1 to look at all aspects of being a judge. So for
2 example, as indicated prior, I watched Judge
3 McKinnon handle scheduling of trials. I thought
4 that would be an additional part of the job I had
5 overlooked before, that would be an important --
6 that would be an important aspect. I did spend a
7 lot of time down here. And so I got to know -- I
8 got to know how it all works. And I've got to
9 understand y'all's jobs and the time commitments
10 that you all have, trying to do everything that
11 you do in a session. And I think that's been the
12 biggest thing that I'm carrying with me this
13 time, is to really assess my qualifications as a
14 judge, improve what needs to be improved by
15 really attending civil court, honing in, studying
16 more aspects of the civil law, but also the
17 practical side and interacting with you all and
18 all the hard work that you do down here.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right, Ms. Inzerillo, before I
20 let you run out of here, I do want to just
21 impress upon you some of the feedback, and some
22 was mentioned by staff counsel, but the comments
23 from your colleagues in the bar: Melissa's
24 smart, good lawyer, honorable individual, find
25 her to have high ethical standards and sound,

1 calm temperament, conscientious lawyer, sound
2 reasoning, outstanding temperament, credit to the
3 profession in both the quality of her craft and
4 the respect she shows to other litigants. Again,
5 I think that is a tribute to you and who you are
6 and how you've conducted yourself. And I think
7 you should be very proud of that. And one other
8 point I'll just share with you, because I think
9 it's worthy of praise, perhaps I missed it in the
10 PDQ, but one commenter noted that you volunteered
11 with several civic groups, including Habitat for
12 Humanity, and I just wanted to applaud you for
13 doing that. You know, you certainly have a
14 caseload of probably hundreds, but finding time
15 to give back, I think, is something that -- it
16 means something to me. I think public service
17 matters, whether that's through government
18 institutions or civic organizations or causes
19 like Habitat for Humanity, and I really applaud
20 you for doing that. So thank you. That will
21 conclude this part of our screening process. I
22 do need to take this moment, though, to remind
23 you that pursuant to the commission's evaluative
24 criteria, we expect candidates to follow the
25 letter as well as the spirit of our ethics laws,

1 and we would view any violation or appearance of
2 impropriety as very serious and potentially
3 deserving of heavy weight in our screening
4 deliberations, such that if there were a need, we
5 could call you back to the commission for a
6 hearing and have a further discussion about that
7 if the need were to arise. Do you understand all
8 of that?

9 MS. INZERILLO: Yes, sir.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Thank you for offering
11 for public service. Thank you for your public
12 service to date, and wish you all the best as you
13 go on with the rest of your day.

14 MS. INZERILLO: Thank you very much. Thank you for
15 your time.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you for being here, and thank
17 you to both of you for joining Ms. Inzerillo here
18 this morning.

19 MS. INZERILLO: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. We will stand at ease
21 until the next candidate has made his or her way
22 into the room.

23 (Off the Record)

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Good morning. We can go ahead and
25 proceed with the next screening. Before us, I

1 believe we have Misti Shelton.

2 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Am I saying that right?

4 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. And this is an applicant
6 for seat two of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court.

7 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do I have all that right?

9 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would please
11 raise your right hand.

12 WHEREUPON:

13 MISTI HORTON SHELTON, being duly sworn and
14 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
15 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: If you would please state your full
17 name for the record.

18 MS. SHELTON: Misti Horton Shelton.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. There should be some
20 documents in front of you. If you would please
21 take a moment to look at those.

22 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are those the personal data
24 questionnaire and the sworn statement that you
25 submitted to the commission?

1 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are there any updates or changes
3 that need to be made to this?

4 MS. SHELTON: No additional changes. No, sir.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you have any objection to our
6 including those in the record?

7 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

8 (EXHIBIT NO. 11 MARKED FOR
9 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (16 pages)
10 PDQ)

11 (EXHIBIT NO. 12 MARKED FOR
12 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
13 Amendment)

14 (EXHIBIT NO. 13 MARKED FOR
15 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (6 pages)
16 Sworn Statement)

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Let me give staff just a second to
18 do that. The Judicial Merit Selection Commission
19 has thoroughly investigated your qualifications
20 for the bench. Our inquiry has focused on the
21 nine evaluative criteria and has included the
22 thorough study of your application materials, a
23 ballot box survey, a search of newspaper articles
24 in which your name appears, a check for economic
25 conflicts of interest, and a -- I've said this so

1 many times and I've lost my place in making sure
2 that I have identified -- verification of your
3 state ethics laws. There we go. We have
4 received no affidavits filed in opposition to
5 your election. No witnesses are present to
6 testify. If you would like to make a brief
7 opening statement, we'd be happy to hear from
8 you. Otherwise, I would recognize staff counsel
9 to proceed with questions.

10 MS. SHELTON: Other than to say I'm grateful for the
11 opportunity. Thank you for everyone's time and I
12 would also just like to take this time to say
13 thank you to Ms. Crawford, Ms. Putnam, and Ms.
14 Trask. They were so very kind and helpful
15 through the whole process. They were very
16 wonderful to work with and made it much easier
17 for someone who was very nervous to put her foot
18 in the pool to start for the first time.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Great. Well, that's nice to hear
20 especially about Ms. Crawford. At this point,
21 I'd recognize Ms. Trask.

22 EXAMINATION

23 MS. TRASK:

24 **Q. Good morning.**

25 A. Good morning.

1 MS. TRASK: I note for the record that based on the
2 testimony contained in the candidate's PDQ, which
3 has been included in the record with the
4 candidate's consent, Misti H. Shelton meets the
5 constitutional and statutory requirements for
6 this position regarding age, residence, and years
7 of practice.

8 **Q. Ms. Shelton, how do you feel your legal and**
9 **professional experience thus far renders you qualified**
10 **and will assist you to be an effective circuit court**
11 **judge?**

12 A. Well, I'd like to say I started my legal career
13 clerking for Judge Lockemy and if anybody's familiar
14 with Judge Lockemy, he is a teacher. He likes to
15 impart his knowledge freely at all times and I learned
16 a lot from him that year and I went into my year with
17 him thinking that I wanted to be a trial lawyer and I
18 ended that year knowing that I wanted to be in the
19 courtroom and that's where I wanted to spend my
20 career. And then I've spent the next 20 plus years
21 being a trial lawyer. I've done both prosecution and
22 defense and I've tried a lot of cases and have spent
23 the vast majority of my time in a courtroom even after
24 my circuit moved to more of a plea pile type system.
25 I've continued to do my own pleas because I just like

1 being in a courtroom. In addition to my trial work,
2 I've also taken sort of a managerial role in the
3 office where one of the things that I excel at is
4 docket management where I have worked extensively at
5 training the younger prosecutors in docket management
6 and kind of have worked sort of hand-in-hand with the
7 courts and with judges with maintaining our efficient
8 docket in the 16th circuit. So I kind of have I think
9 sort of an inside look at what the judges face and
10 what they have to do to help maintain the docket. And
11 I did spend some time in private practice so I do
12 understand the strains that being in a small practice
13 puts on an attorney when they have, you know, to have
14 to maintain their practice while being in multiple
15 courtrooms at a time at various times. So I do have
16 an understanding of that. Beyond just my professional
17 experience, I think that my strongest qualities that I
18 would bring the bench is just my life experience, is
19 my work ethic, my understanding of people and probably
20 my compassion.

21 **Q. Thank you. Ms. Shelton, the commission received 128**
22 **ballot box surveys regarding you with 41 additional**
23 **comments. The ballot box survey, for example,**
24 **contained the following positive comments. Misti is**
25 **very intelligent and capable and she has a strong work**

1 ethic and is committed to upholding the rule of law
2 with integrity and compassion. Seven of the written
3 comments expressed concerns. Some of the concerns
4 were regarding your lack of civil experience. What
5 response would you like to offer to those concerns?

6 A. That I understand those concerns. I knew that that
7 would be something that would need to be addressed
8 before I even applied. So back in August I began
9 studying. I spent the summer at my kitchen table
10 reading through the rules of civil procedure, reading
11 civil advance sheets that I hadn't done in many years
12 because I didn't need to. I've started taking CLEs.
13 I've taken three CLEs and I've also taken -- it didn't
14 -- it doesn't show on my CLE report because I don't
15 think it counted for credit, but it was the bar review
16 civil course. I've also sat in portions of three
17 trials and I've sat in both civil motions and status
18 conferences and in those the judges have been very
19 kind afterwards to stay and answer questions for me
20 and kind of explain to me the process, why they did
21 certain things, and just kind of explain to me sort of
22 what happened in those procedures and they were very -
23 - they were very nice to do that. I also called two
24 judges that I respect very much that came from a
25 predominantly criminal background to ask them what

1 they did to bridge the gap and to be ready to be a
2 judge that didn't have that civil experience and I got
3 advice from both of them.

4 **Q. A couple comments indicated concerns regarding your**
5 **ability to remain unbiased and regarding your judicial**
6 **temperament. What response would you offer to these**
7 **concerns?**

8 A. The unbiased, I understand because I have been a
9 prosecutor for the last 10 years, or 13 years, I
10 guess. I'm older than I like to let myself believe
11 sometimes, but the -- but I was a public defender for
12 a couple of years and I was a private defense attorney
13 for a couple of years before that. And a lot of
14 people that know me know this story that when I went
15 into law school my goal was to be a public defender
16 and up through my third year of law school, that's
17 what I wanted to do when I got out and the reason why
18 I wanted to do that is because I didn't have any
19 lawyers in my family, I didn't have a lot of
20 background in the legal system, so my view of what
21 public defenders did was help people and I really
22 didn't know much about what prosecutors did, but I
23 knew public defenders helped people and I remember I
24 worked for the National College of District Attorneys
25 when I was second year into my third year of law

1 school and we did the career prosecutor course down in
2 Charleston and I remember having a conversation with a
3 prosecutor down there and she was just asking me what
4 my goals were and I told her I wanted to be a public
5 defender and she asked me why and I went through the
6 whole, you know, bright-eyed, you know, idealistic I
7 want to help people and she said you can as a
8 prosecutor and you can help everyone. You can help
9 victims, you help law enforcement and you can help
10 defendants because you as a prosecutor have the
11 ability to dismiss charges if that's the right thing,
12 you have the ability to reduce charges if that's the
13 right thing. And I feel like that's what I have done
14 my entire career and I hope that the vast majority of
15 the ballot box comments did acknowledge that, that I
16 have tried for the vast majority of my career to be
17 fair and to be reasonable and to give people second
18 chances when that is deserved. And to keep in mind,
19 going to more to the temperament side, as a prosecutor
20 and as a defense attorney you are an advocate so I was
21 always advancing some position and sometimes you have
22 to be strong when you do that and firm but as a judge
23 you are more -- you don't have a position to advance.
24 You are fair and impartial and so I would hope that
25 would take away any temperament concerns.

1 Q. Thank you, Ms. Shelton. I would note that the
2 Piedmont Citizens Committee reported that Ms. Shelton
3 is well qualified in the evaluative criteria of
4 ethical fitness, professional and academic ability,
5 character, reputation, experience, and judicial
6 temperament. She was found to be qualified in the
7 evaluative criteria of constitutional qualifications,
8 physical health, and mental stability. The Citizens
9 Committee commented Ms. Shelton has over two decades
10 of experience on both sides of criminal court with the
11 judgment and thoughtfulness that that experience
12 commands. Like Ms. Inzerillo, the panel recognizes
13 that Ms. Shelton lacks civil law experience but
14 believes that she has the ability and commitment to
15 acquire that quickly. We believe she would make a
16 fine circuit court judge. I have a few housekeeping
17 issues. JMSC procedural Rule 17 includes a
18 prohibition of any candidate from attending or
19 watching of any portion of the live stream or
20 recordings of the public hearings of this cycle until
21 after all hearings are concluded. Have you watched or
22 listened to any of these hearings before your
23 appearance today?

24 A. No, ma'am.

25 Q. Has any other person relayed any information about any

1 of the proceedings before this commission to you?

2 A. No, ma'am.

3 Q. Ms. Shelton, are you aware that as a judicial
4 candidate you are bound by the Code of Judicial
5 Conduct as found in Rule 501 of the South Carolina
6 Appellate Court Rules?

7 A. Yes, ma'am.

8 Q. Ms. Shelton, since submitting your letter of intent,
9 have you contacted any members of the commission about
10 your candidacy?

11 A. No, ma'am.

12 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
13 sought or received the pledge of any legislator either
14 prior to this date or pending the outcome of your
15 screening?

16 A. No, ma'am.

17 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including the
18 limitations on contacting members of the General
19 Assembly regarding your screening?

20 A. Yes, ma'am.

21 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
22 the General Assembly on your behalf or are you aware
23 of anyone attempting to intervene in this process on
24 your behalf?

25 A. No, ma'am.

1 Q. Have you reviewed and do you understand the
2 commission's guidelines on pledging in South Carolina
3 Code section 2-19-70(E)?

4 A. Yes, ma'am.

5 MS. TRASK: Mr. Chairman, I would note for the record
6 that any concerns raised during the investigation
7 by staff regarding the candidate were
8 incorporated into the questioning of the
9 candidate today. And Mr. Chairman, I have no
10 further questions.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank, you ma'am. Members of the
12 commission have questions for Ms. Shelton? While
13 some may be thinking of those. I wanted to ask
14 you about the criticism that you lack civil
15 experience. I know there was a brief exchange
16 about it, but that is not an inconsequential
17 aspect to your candidacy. And while the
18 commission is charged with qualification, not
19 election, that's for the General Assembly to
20 handle, I just want to talk about that briefly to
21 make sure I understand kind of where you've been,
22 where you see yourself headed, and what you can
23 tell us about that aspect of your candidacy.

24 MS. SHELTON: I do have very, very little civil.
25 While I clerked for Judge Lockemy, which was many

1 years ago, if my memory serves correctly, he was
2 Chief Admin Civil for that, I guess, six months
3 while I was with him. My memory was that we had
4 two civil trials. I remember one very, very
5 vividly because it was wild. He thinks that we
6 had more than that. I did in private practice
7 for the two years that I was in private practice,
8 it was a civil criminal firm, but in complete
9 candor I had very little to do with the civil
10 side. I maybe reviewed a few things here or
11 there, but I did very little. I think I put on
12 my application that the last five years maybe one
13 percent of my practice has been in civil. That
14 is doing forfeitures. So I have probably -- if
15 you looked in e-filing, I probably have 25 or 30
16 cases in the past five years. I understand that
17 as a concern. I am the type of person that I do
18 not like to fail at anything. And I don't want
19 to be good enough to just be selected to be a
20 judge. If I am going to be a judge, I want to be
21 a great judge. I want to be the type of judge
22 that attorneys want to appear in front of. So I
23 will work as hard as I need to make up for any
24 deficits that I have. The two judges that I
25 talked to that had mainly criminal experience,

1 that was basically the crux of their -- it was
2 Judge Hall and Judge McCaslin, that was basically
3 the crux of their advice was just to put your
4 head down, work, always read ahead, always be the
5 most informed person going into the courtroom at
6 the beginning of your civil week. Judge Hall
7 advised me to reach out. He said the judiciary
8 is a wonderful source of information and to reach
9 out to ask questions. If I found myself not
10 knowing something to not hesitate to ask for
11 help. And so I would certainly do that.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you. Thank you for that. And
13 I'll also extend that thanks to one of the points
14 that you made in response to Ms. Trask's
15 questions that I thought was particularly, I
16 don't know if the right word is for it,
17 interesting, good, smart, hadn't come up, but
18 taking the bar prep for civil stuff. Like I
19 thought that was a smart -- that is a smart way
20 to go about trying to address that opportunity
21 for growth as well as the CLEs and sitting with
22 judges and all those sorts of things. But I
23 don't suspect that -- let me just say it this
24 way. I, based on your record, think that you
25 meet the standards of qualification, but I would

1 be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to
2 make humbly the suggestion that you do all that
3 you can to bolster your civil bona fides, both
4 for the lesser purpose of allaying concern, but
5 the greater purpose of actually knowing it and
6 actually being able to apply it should your
7 candidacy be successful.

8 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: So now that others have warmed to
10 the question asking process, I will recognize
11 Senator Walker.

12 SENATOR WALKER; Thank you, Mr. Chair. And good
13 morning to you, Ms. Shelton.

14 MS. SHELTON: Good morning.

15 SENATOR WALKER: Firstly, let me just acknowledge your
16 22 years of public service.

17 MS. SHELTON: Thank you.

18 SENATOR WALKER: You have 20 years, I believe, as a
19 prosecutor, at least two years as a public
20 defender, correct?

21 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

22 SENATOR WALKER: And one thing that you and I have in
23 common is that I started my career as a public
24 defender and I also prosecuted at some point in
25 my legal career as well. And I can't say enough

1 just how important it is for a judicial candidate
2 to have a balanced perspective, especially when
3 it comes to handling criminal cases or someone
4 who may end up residing in General Sessions
5 Court. I've said ad nauseam over the years, you
6 know, I wish that public defenders could go and
7 work as prosecutors for six months and I wish
8 that prosecutors can go and work as public
9 defenders for six months so that way each side,
10 you know, could develop an appreciation for the
11 challenges and the struggles, you know, that they
12 deal with respectively. And so again, you know,
13 thank you for your service and I just know how
14 that balanced experience does carry a lot of
15 weight with me. But I would be remiss if we did
16 not sort of bring up what I would deem to be the
17 elephant in the room. Your -- this race, as you
18 know, you have a -- there's someone else who's
19 running for the seat.

20 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

21 SENATOR WALKER: And a year ago she came before the
22 General Assembly and she was the only candidate
23 screened out and her candidacy was scuttled at
24 the 11th hour.

25 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

1 SENATOR WALKER: And here we are, you know, less than
2 a year later and there's not only is she running
3 again but there's an opponent in the incarnation
4 of you --

5 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

6 SENATOR WALKER: -- you know, that is also vying for
7 the seat and so it makes your race intriguing.

8 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

9 SENATOR WALKER: And that's probably an
10 understatement. So the question I would have for
11 you is were you encouraged by anyone --

12 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

13 SENATOR WALKER: -- to run --

14 MS. SHELTON: I was.

15 SENATOR WALKER: -- for the seat?

16 MS. SHELTON: I was. I was encouraged by the circuit
17 public defender B.J. Barrowclough and long-term
18 defense attorney Leland Greeley from the 16th
19 circuit and by Montreal Belton. Those were the
20 main people that encouraged me to run.

21 SENATOR WALKER: There were no elected officials --

22 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

23 SENATOR WALKER -- state or local --

24 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

25 SENATOR WALKER: -- who encouraged you --

1 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

2 SENATOR WALKER: -- to seek the seat?

3 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

4 SENATOR WALKER: I'm not questioning your motives --

5 MS. SHELTON: No, sir. Now once I did decide, I would
6 say the first four people, five people that I
7 talked to about running. The first person that
8 talked to me about running was B.J. Barraclough.
9 He and I have been friends for 20 years. He has
10 been asking me to run for 15 years but I have
11 kids that are now teenagers that don't need me as
12 much anymore. And the second person was Leland.
13 Leland talked to me twice. I told both of them
14 no the first time and then I talked to my husband
15 --

16 SENATOR WALKER: That's most important.

17 MS. SHELTON: -- and then I talked to Judge Hall and
18 then I think I talked to Montreal. So I think
19 those were the first five people that I talked
20 to. So it was after I decided to run before I
21 talked to any representatives and it was just
22 basically to introduce myself. I've talked to --
23 I think I've talked to all of my local
24 representatives just to introduce myself and say
25 hey I'm running.

1 SENATOR WALKER: And let me just say this, Ms.

2 Shelton. You know, please don't take umbrage at
3 the question. It would probably be almost
4 malpractice for me as a member of this commission
5 to not ask the obvious when you consider the
6 dynamics in your race. You have a record of
7 public service. In the event you were successful
8 in your bid, you know, to serve as a judge, that
9 would be just an extension of what you have been
10 doing for the past 20 years which is again, you
11 know, serving the public. But I felt compelled to
12 ask in light of those, you know, dynamics. So
13 thank you for answering the question.

14 MS. SHELTON: I completely understand. And I would --
15 just on the public service, I did the two years
16 of private practice. It was not for me. I am a
17 public servant. It is the only thing that I have
18 wanted to do. And so that is kind of where this
19 is the next natural step for me.

20 SENATOR WALKER: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator from Charleston.

22 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Thank you, Ms. Shelton, for your
23 willingness to offer yourself for this position.
24 I want to just get down to the -- and you
25 acknowledge that you have significant criminal

1 experience but very little civil.

2 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

3 SENATOR CAMPSEN: but you also indicated that you have
4 taken steps to bolster your civil, perhaps not
5 trial experience, but at least your understanding
6 of civil law and concepts of civil law. And so I
7 just wanted to get a clarification. You kind of
8 rattled off a lot of things --

9 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

10 SENATOR CAMPSEN: -- that sounded like -- sounded
11 good.

12 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

13 SENATOR CAMPSEN: I just want to make sure that I get
14 all those things you did. Like did you -- you
15 took -- you studied the bar's -- bar prep for
16 civil?

17 MS. SHELTON: Not the full bar prep. There's -- if
18 you go on to the on demand, there's these little
19 hour-long sections you can do and there was one
20 on civil. That's on-demand bar prep for civil.
21 I did that one.

22 SENATOR CAMPSEN: You did one.

23 MS. SHELTON: I did that one.

24 SENATOR CAMPSEN: So that's -- that's the totality of
25 the civil section?

1 MS. SHELTON: No. I did three -- that was all that I
2 saw on demand.

3 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Okay.

4 MS. SHELTON: And with working full-time I have to --
5 I've had to do CLEs in small little bits and
6 pieces and I've done three other -- two other
7 on-demand and one in-person CLEs that were for
8 credit.

9 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Okay. And you've been reading the
10 advance sheets?

11 MS. SHELTON: I have, yes sir.

12 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Okay. How long have you been doing
13 that?

14 MS. SHELTON: Since July, since I decided to run.

15 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Okay. And I think you mentioned
16 sitting with judges during trials?

17 MS. SHELTON: I sat in portions of two trials. Not
18 the full -- not the full trials but in -- in
19 portions of trials and I've sat in motions on two
20 occasions and I've sat with Judge McKinnon during
21 status conferences on one occasion. And then
22 during the motions and status conferences when
23 the judges stayed during breaks and after and
24 answered questions for me.

25 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Okay. Anything else on the civil

1 side?

2 MS. SHELTON: Other than just reading through the
3 rules of civil procedure and, and talking with
4 Judge Hall and Judge McCaslin about what they did
5 to get up to speed and, and get prepared and how
6 they handled bridging the gap from going from
7 criminal -- going from having a purely criminal
8 background to being a circuit court judge. That
9 -- that's.

10 SENATOR CAMPSEN: And you've done this in what period
11 of time?

12 MS. SHELTON: Since July. Since I decided to file.

13 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Since July of this year?

14 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

15 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Okay. Well that's -- that's --
16 that's a pretty good amount for just July to this
17 moment in time.

18 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

19 SENATOR CAMPSEN: Thank you.

20 MS. SHELTON: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Representative Stavrinakis.

22 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: What time is it now?

23 Okay, we're still morning. Good morning.

24 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir. Good morning.

25 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Thank you for your

1 service --

2 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

3 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- as a former public
4 defender and solicitor and for offering yourself
5 for the bench. You mentioned in some of your
6 comments that you thought you would bring a lot
7 of helpful experience with regard to docket
8 management.

9 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

10 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Obviously, that's a big
11 issue around the state.

12 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

13 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: The criminal docket,
14 which I do, you know, some criminal work and it's
15 been a big issue and it's been a changing issue.
16 I would imagine you've been around long enough
17 that you were a solicitor when the solicitor kind
18 of had the exclusive control of the docket.

19 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

20 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Then you worked through
21 the period where the Court kind of had the
22 exclusive control and now we have kind of this
23 hybrid. What are your impressions of where we
24 are right now?

25 MS. SHELTON: I think -- honestly, I think every

1 circuit's a little different.

2 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Sure.

3 MS. SHELTON: I think in York we've had Judge Kelly
4 this year and I think we very much are a hybrid.
5 We are -- we are very much following the 45-day
6 trial notice with asking for, you know, input
7 from the bar -- from the defense bar on objecting
8 and then the judge sets the final trial docket at
9 20 days and I think it's working really well as
10 far as trial notice and the trial docket and we
11 are using second appearances as necessary. So I
12 think that is -- I think the hybrid is working in
13 York County and I kind of -- that's where we are
14 right now in York.

15 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: In York, when the docket
16 gets quote finalized, that -- is that the judge
17 finalizing?

18 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

19 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Is the judge also
20 finalizing the order of the cases or just what
21 the actual cases will be and then the solicitor's
22 office is determining the order of those?

23 MS. SHELTON: We are still submitting our proposed
24 order to the judge.

25 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Including the order of

1 cases?

2 MS. SHELTON: Including the order of cases, but that
3 is kind of done with coordinating with the
4 defense bar and then also with input from the
5 Court. Like this week, the order -- we are in
6 trial this week and the order that was supposed
7 to happen is not happening and that was after
8 something came up with the attorneys that were
9 supposed to start on Monday with the defense
10 attorney, the judge rearranged the order. So it
11 is kind of a hybrid -- it is still a hybrid
12 system.

13 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. And would you
14 continue as a judge to employ that practice of
15 involvement with the defense bar?

16 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

17 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay.

18 MS. SHELTON: Absolutely.

19 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: In deciding what priority
20 -- after we decide, so here are the 20 cases and
21 in deciding what -- what order to prioritize
22 those cases, what do you think are the most
23 important considerations that should -- as a
24 judge. Not as a solicitor. I'm talking about if
25 you were a judge?

1 MS. SHELTON: I think first has that person, the
2 accused been in jail for a long time? I think --
3 I think -- I do not like to see people
4 languishing -- even as a prosecutor, do not like
5 to see people languishing in jail for months and
6 months and months. So I think age of case is --

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Years and years and
8 years, to be quite honest.

9 MS. SHELTON: Yes, that does -- that does not really
10 happen with me.

11 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Good.

12 MS. SHELTON: So I think, is the person in jail, how
13 long have they been in jail, is something that I
14 would always be interested in as a judge. The
15 overall age of the case. I think the people that
16 are most -- that know the most about whether or
17 not this case is ready are both the state and the
18 defense. So is the case ready, I think is, the
19 court can't be 100 percent totally involved
20 because they don't know if the case is actually
21 ready. So I think that has to be a factor that
22 the Court takes into consideration. But, I think
23 for me, as a judge the biggest concern I would
24 have is the age of the case and, and how long --
25 if the person is in jail, how long they have been

1 in jail. I certainly wouldn't want to try a case
2 that was a year old where the person had been out
3 on bond for a year if the next case on the docket
4 was three years old and the person had been in
5 jail for three years.

6 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay, thank you. That's
7 refreshing to hear. There was a comment in, you
8 know, the ballot box about something to the
9 effect of punishing defendants for exercising
10 their rights. So let me ask you a couple of
11 questions about that because, you know, I've been
12 -- was a solicitor for a while. Three years as a
13 full-time and then another three and a half or so
14 as a part-time in Charleston and Berkeley
15 counties. You know, have you ever employed the
16 practice of withdrawing or deadlining an offer
17 such as to prevent a person from having a motion
18 to suppress or to exercise some constitutional
19 right in front of a judge?

20 MS. SHELTON: That happens in York a lot for -- with
21 drug cases. They do not -- it is office policy
22 that unless the judge orders a -- so our defense
23 bar does not really do a lot of motions practice.

24 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Well, it's hard to do
25 motions practice as a defense lawyer just to, you

1 know. That would be -- that would be a question
2 for our Supreme Court candidates about making
3 that easier --

4 MS. SHELTON: I don't disagree.

5 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- but yeah.

6 MS. SHELTON: I have not been a drug attorney in a
7 long time. I would say in the early 2000s when I
8 was a drug attorney, we didn't do our suppression
9 hearings until trial so.

10 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: That's what happens a
11 lot.

12 MS. SHELTON: So yes -- so I -- so yes, I had --
13 anytime I had a drug trial that went to trial
14 with a suppression hearing, we went to trial and
15 the suppression hearing was encompassed in the
16 trial and there were times where I gave offers
17 back after the suppression hearing, but there
18 were times where offers weren't given back just
19 depending on the situation with the case, but I
20 have not done that since being a drug attorney in
21 --

22 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: But you mentioned that
23 was office policy in your office.

24 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

25 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: And that was set by who?

1 MS. SHELTON: The solicitor.

2 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Who is?

3 MS. SHELTON: Kevin Brackett.

4 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. And what about

5 bond hearings? Have y'all ever employed a

6 practice of withdrawing offers to people who --

7 MS. SHELTON: No, not to my knowledge. I have never,

8 and I have never seen that, and if I had seen

9 that as a supervisor, I would tell the person not

10 to do that.

11 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. That's good to

12 hear. So like Senator Walker, I don't want you

13 to take any offense by these questions. We just

14 have a obligation to ask certain questions. You

15 mentioned that you work for Solicitor Brackett --

16 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

17 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- for how long now?

18 MS. SHELTON: I think I came back to the office in

19 2011. So since 2011.

20 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. Solicitor

21 Brackett, Solicitor Pasco, Solicitor Wilson,

22 maybe some others have been very vocal about

23 alleging that this process is corrupted.

24 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

25 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: That some of the people

1 involved, particularly the lawyer legislators are
2 corrupting influence on this process. Let me ask
3 you. Have you experienced any corruption in your
4 time as a candidate?

5 MS. SHELTON: Again, I -- before this started, I was
6 not very involved in this process, knew very
7 little. I can only --

8 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: I'm asking you about
9 before. I'm asking you since you filed as a
10 candidate, have you experienced --

11 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

12 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- any evidence of
13 corruption, seen any evidence of corruption --

14 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

15 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- in the process?

16 MS. SHELTON: No, sir. I can only speak from my
17 personal experience. I feel thoroughly vetted.
18 I feel like I have been treated very fairly.
19 Throughout the entire process, people have been
20 very kind. So no. And I can only speak from my
21 experience.

22 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. And that's all I'm
23 asking you about. You mentioned some people you
24 spoke to about running for judge. You did not
25 mention Solicitor Brackett. Is he someone you

1 have not talked to?

2 MS. SHELTON: I've certainly talked to him. He was
3 not on my top first list of people that I talked
4 to.

5 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay.

6 MS. SHELTON: I mean, he knows I'm running.

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Other than -- I'm not
8 sure about your husband, but you mentioned a
9 number of people. Are they lawyers
10 predominantly?

11 MS. SHELTON: Yeah. Leland Greeley is a defense
12 attorney in York County, been around for a long
13 time. Montreal Belton is a defense attorney in
14 York County. B.J. Barrowclough is the circuit
15 public defender. Judge Hall is former -- is
16 retired now, but judge is -- yes.

17 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Solicitor Brackett's a
18 lawyer?

19 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: So let me interrupt just for a
21 second to remind everyone that we have to take
22 turns. There was a couple of moments there where
23 we were both trying to talk and -- and that does
24 a disservice to the court reporter. And so I
25 just want to interrupt to make sure that we go --

1 MS. SHELTON: Sorry.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: -- like lawyers do in a -- in a
3 courtroom.

4 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: That's probably my fault
5 as I'm interrupting you right now because you
6 interrupted me.

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Well, a hit dog will holler as they
8 say. Additionally, I want to remind everyone to
9 keep the focus on the determination of
10 qualification. So as long as we're getting
11 there, I don't see a problem, but let's get
12 there.

13 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Again, my fault. You
14 mentioned that those folks are -- most of them
15 are lawyers.

16 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

17 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. Will they be
18 assisting you if you are fortunate enough to
19 screen out and be found qualified?

20 MS. SHELTON: Assisting me in?

21 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Saying good things about
22 you.

23 MS. SHELTON: I think Mr. Barrowclough cannot because
24 he is on the citizens committee.

25 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Some of them might

1 though.

2 MS. SHELTON: I believe so, yes. I don't think they
3 would say bad things.

4 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: And they would later
5 possibly appear in your court?

6 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay.

8 MS. SHELTON: I think -- I think Mr. Greeley's
9 probably getting close to not appearing, but yes.

10 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Certainly Solicitor
11 Brackett's office might appear in your court.

12 MS. SHELTON: Yes.

13 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. You see any
14 problem there?

15 MS. SHELTON: No, I mean --

16 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Frankly, neither do I,
17 but apparently when it's on the other side, some
18 people do see a problem with it.

19 MS. SHELTON: No.

20 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: But anyway, thank you
21 again for offering yourself for service. Thank
22 you for your candid responses. And like a lot of
23 candidates, I've been practicing law 30 plus
24 years. I don't have perfect experience to be a
25 judge, you know? We have -- especially because

1 our circuit court requires a vast variety of
2 undertakings with our judges. They have to deal
3 with so many different kinds of cases that I
4 don't expect as a screener, as a -- as a
5 legislator, someone to have every bit of
6 experience required. What I look for are they
7 smart enough, talented enough, hardworking
8 enough, committed enough to learn where they need
9 to learn, get better where they need to get
10 better. And, you know, so thank you for offering
11 yourself for service again.

12 MS. SHELTON: Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Thank you very much.

14 Did you have something? Senator from Horry.

15 SENATOR RANKIN: Thank you, ma'am. And I have heard
16 about 98 percent of this.

17 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

18 SENATOR RANKIN: I had to step out there for a second,
19 but I'm curious harkening back to the earlier
20 questions not who you talked to, but effectively,
21 why now and why not before? What were you doing
22 summer of 24 when this seat was open? Dan Hall
23 had retired, or was retiring at that point, I
24 think, correct?

25 MS. SHELTON: Yes. So I will be -- without naming --

1 without naming names, there was another candidate
2 in the race in the summer of 2024 that -- that
3 withdrew. And she was a very close friend, and
4 she made it known very early that she was going
5 to run. And out of respect of our friendship, I
6 did not -- I opted to not run at that time. Now,
7 I can say prior to 2024, the years before that,
8 I'm a mom. I have two boys. My boys are now in
9 their teenage years. My oldest is about to start
10 driving. I am a mom that comes home every day
11 and cooks dinner, and helps with homework, and
12 does all of those things, and they don't need me
13 as much anymore. They both are good students and
14 responsible kids. My oldest is about to become
15 an Eagle Scout. My youngest is just made, I
16 think, star, and is working on life. I think
17 that's the next, next step for him. So they're -
18 - they're good kids. They don't need me as much.
19 So from just a personal standpoint, it was -- I'm
20 able to not be as home as much. And from a
21 professional standpoint, I felt like I had the
22 experience, and the maturity, and the confidence
23 to run now, but specifically in 2024, it was out
24 of respect of that friendship.

25 SENATOR RANKIN: And again, I appreciate your being

1 that detailed with it, and more to the point,
2 effectively loyal to your friend. Who was that
3 remind me?

4 MS. SHELTON: I would rather not say her name since
5 she withdrew.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay.

7 MS. SHELTON: Early, early on.

8 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. Not here. We did not
9 meet that person?

10 MS. SHELTON: No, sir.

11 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay, thank you.

12 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

13 SENATOR RANKIN: Because I don't recall meeting
14 anybody.

15 MS. SHELTON: Yes, she withdrew before then.

16 SENATOR RANKIN: All right, very good. You invoke
17 Judge Hall's name --

18 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

19 SENATOR RANKIN: -- as one of the people that you
20 spoke with. And you are familiar with a
21 solicitor by the name of Brackett? Is it Kevin
22 Brackett?

23 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

24 SENATOR RANKIN: Who had a splendid relationship with
25 Judge Hall?

1 MS. SHELTON: Yes. I wouldn't call it that. But yes,
2 sir.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: And that is the context for those of
4 us who were here, that looms larger, perhaps in
5 your candidacy than it should, in fairness to
6 you.

7 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir. And I understand that. I do.
8 And I think that the person who probably should
9 bear the greatest grudge out of all that would be
10 Judge Hall. And I think if you were to call him,
11 step out of this room and call him right now, he
12 would absolutely only say kind things about me.
13 Judge Hall and I have known each other for 20
14 plus years. I met him as a brand new baby
15 prosecutor, and he has -- he's about the same age
16 as my mom. I am about the same age as his oldest
17 kids -- as his oldest kid, and he has, for lack
18 of a better term, has been like a father figure
19 to me. It is one of the reasons why he's one of
20 the first three people that I spoke to. When I
21 called him to ask him about bridging the gap from
22 criminal to civil, the first question I asked him
23 was, having known me and seen me grow and be in
24 the courtroom, did he think I could do it? So
25 that is the relationship that I have with Judge

1 Hall.

2 SENATOR RANKIN: I'm curious, and I'm sure you may
3 have read the transcripts perhaps, or maybe not.
4 Either answer is fine, but effectively what your
5 boss, and Mr. Brackett is your boss, --

6 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

7 SENATOR RANKIN: He's your employer, correct?

8 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

9 SENATOR RANKIN: Filing a complaint -- a sitting
10 solicitor filing a complaint against a sitting
11 unopposed circuit court judge --

12 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

13 SENATOR RANKIN: -- unprecedented, that in essence and
14 in word admitted at the end of the fairly uniform
15 questioning by the members of that commission,
16 admitted it was a personal personality conflict.
17 Are you familiar with that exchange or that
18 history, or if you're not, let's not even go
19 there.

20 MS. SHELTON: Not in total. No, I will say not in
21 total. I was not -- I purposely was not involved
22 in any of that decision making. So no, not
23 completely. No, sir.

24 SENATOR RANKIN: You use the word grudge, and if
25 anyone had a grudge, it should be Judge Hall.

1 Why did you use that word?

2 MS. SHELTON: Yes. Because I do think for Judge Hall
3 being the sitting judge, it was particularly
4 painful. I mean, he was the judge, and he was
5 the sitting judge, and had to come in and defend
6 his position, and defend the work that he had
7 been doing, and how he had been doing it, and
8 again, I don't know the full circumstances, but
9 for the next year and a half, he didn't appear in
10 court in York County.

11 SENATOR RANKIN: Which was really the kind of a
12 supposition that many of us have. The complaint
13 was basically to ice him, keep that judge out of
14 your circuit's general sessions courtroom.

15 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir. I mean, and he was gone,
16 because we had Judge Griffith came in after that,
17 who I also am very fond of, but it -- so that --
18 it -- that's why I use the word -- and I'm not
19 saying that he does, I'm just saying that if
20 there is a person that would have one, it would
21 be him.

22 SENATOR RANKIN: And all of this, to the point of my
23 seatmates, perhaps, or others, with the now, most
24 watched, now we are, with 82 people watching, the
25 low bar of 12, perhaps the solicitor's office,

1 hello, Mr. Brackett, is watching now. And I
2 don't bear anyone any ill will, but I do take a
3 particular interest in your candidacy as an
4 employee of that office, and the goal that we
5 have, not to elect you, but to probe into whether
6 you're going to be what your solicitor, your
7 employer, finally wanted in Judge Hall, --

8 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

9 SENATOR RANKIN: -- that he didn't get directly, and
10 indirectly, by filing a complaint, effectively,
11 conflicts Judge Hall, who by every other count,
12 highly, highly, highly, ballot box as well,
13 highly regarded on the bench.

14 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

15 SENATOR RANKIN: So you get my --

16 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

17 SENATOR RANKIN: -- context here?

18 MS. SHELTON: Yes sir. I do. And if you -- I mean, I
19 would just point you to -- I understand -- I
20 understand those concerns. There's a reason why
21 I had Harry Dest write me a letter of
22 recommendation. Harry Dest was the public
23 defender, I believe, either when all that went
24 down, or leading up to when all that went down.
25 Harry has -- Mr. Dest has also known me for a

1 very long time, and I think can speak to who I am
2 as a lawyer, and who I am as a person. I have
3 another colleague who says that I am the least
4 yes person he has ever met in his life. I have
5 tremendous respect for the judiciary, and
6 tremendous respect for what that office does, and
7 for the criminal justice system. I have, for the
8 past 20 years, done what I think was right by my
9 moral, ethical, and legal standards, not what
10 Kevin Brackett has told me to do. Kevin Brackett
11 has very rarely involved himself in what I do.
12 And if I am successful in this, if I make it
13 through this process, and am selected, I will
14 continue to do what I think is right, and that,
15 you know, will at, probably at points in time,
16 make solicitors angry, and at points in time,
17 will make defense attorneys angry, but I am as
18 close to people in the defense bar in York
19 County, as I am to people in the solicitor's
20 office in York County, so that -- I understand
21 the concern, but he is my boss now, and even
22 being my boss now, I still operate by my own
23 moral, ethical, and legal code.

24 SENATOR RANKIN: Let me follow up on this, and then
25 perhaps wrap it up. And to the point you're

1 making, someone here anonymously has written, in
2 fairly great detail, that you are one of the few
3 members of the solicitor's office who seem to
4 have the appropriate intentions, not only making
5 fair offers, willing to negotiate, and willing to
6 dismiss a case if it's simply not eligible for
7 prosecution. You don't seek excessive penalties.
8 And so, effectively, maybe giving voice to the
9 conflict, perhaps, but more to the point to your
10 independence, and so, this business of becoming a
11 judge, and judging others, and former employers,
12 whether it be a solicitor, a house member, a
13 majority leader of the House of Representatives,
14 you're being independent from the backroom
15 channels, but more dependent upon what is
16 presented to you, in front of you, on a day-in
17 and day-out basis. So to the 83 people that are
18 listening, watching, to see whether you can be
19 that independent person to stand up, perhaps,
20 under the withering precedent of a complaint
21 being filed against you, how do you disassociate
22 yourself, and stiff arm all of that, not just,
23 again, this context, but everybody, every
24 victim's group, or every whatever?

25 MS. SHELTON: That is not something that -- I mean, I

1 did think about that when deciding to do this,
2 because I have enjoyed having a very good
3 relationship with both the defense bar, and law
4 enforcement, and with my own office, for the past
5 20 plus years. And I know -- and I'm a very
6 social person, and I enjoy being with people, and
7 I enjoy being around people, and I enjoy having
8 friendships, and I know, if I'm on the bench,
9 that that will probably all go away, and I will
10 have to become this very independent person, and
11 as you said, stand up to maybe some withering
12 criticism. If I didn't think that I could do it,
13 I would not have put myself through this process.
14 As lovely as it has been, it still has been
15 challenging. It will not be without difficulty,
16 but I think anything that is worth doing, and
17 doing well, is going to also bring with it
18 difficulty, and if you are putting yourself in
19 that position to judge people, and to impact
20 people's lives, you have to be willing to accept
21 that responsibility, and to accept that
22 difficulty, and accept that position that you
23 aren't -- that you may not be well liked, that
24 you will make difficult decisions, that people
25 aren't going to like you, and people aren't going

1 to support every decision that you make, but if
2 you're going to put yourself in that position to
3 have that, for lack of a better word, power over
4 people's lives, you have to be willing to accept
5 that for that burden.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: Finally: when I joined this circuit,
7 she was the only senior female solicitor who was
8 kind, respectful, welcoming, and friendly to me,
9 and a rare occurrence, which I find to be so
10 inspirational and impressive. You have the
11 character of someone I wanted to be like. I look
12 up to her in many ways. That speaks volumes for
13 you and I appreciate your candidness with me.

14 MS. SHELTON: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, Ms. Shelton, for your
16 time and your patience for this today. I guess
17 we were a little ahead of schedule getting there,
18 so maybe not as much thanks for your patience as
19 we had to extend to some yesterdays as we got
20 behind the proverbial eight ball. Nonetheless, I
21 appreciate your public service to date, as noted
22 by others, and your offering for any service. I
23 would also just extend a bit of congratulations
24 to your sons on the pursuit of their Eagle Scout
25 awards.

1 MS. SHELTON: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Early back in the 1900s, I earned my
3 own Eagle Scott awards, came across it not too
4 long ago. Good times and formative in so many
5 ways. This is the conclusion of this portion of
6 the screening process. I do need to take the
7 opportunity, though, to remind you that, pursuant
8 to the Commission's evaluative criteria, we
9 expect candidates to follow the letter as well as
10 the spirit of our state's ethics laws, and we
11 view any violation or appearance of impropriety
12 as very serious and potential for heavy weight in
13 our screening deliberations. And, as you know,
14 were the need to arise, if there was a concern
15 that arose prior to the formal release of the
16 recorded qualifications, we can call you back for
17 further discussion. You're aware of all of that.

18 MS. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Wonderful. Again, thank you for all
20 the many things I said, and thank you for being
21 here today. I wish you all the best as you
22 travel home safely.

23 MS. SHELTON: Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. We are going to
25 proceed with our next candidate. I know the

1 schedule that you were led to believe as truth
2 now says lunch now, but lunch has been delayed.
3 Our next candidate is here and rather than
4 finding ourselves not taking advantage of the
5 time that we have, we will proceed with the next
6 candidate.

7 (Off the record)

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Good afternoon. We will
9 proceed with the next screening. We have before
10 us Mr. Kinney, who is a candidate for seat two,
11 the third circuit of the Family Court bench. Do
12 I have all of that right, sir?

13 MR. KINNEY: That's correct.

14 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would please
15 raise your right hand.

16 WHEREUPON:

17 EDWIN KINNEY, being duly sworn and cautioned
18 to speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing
19 but the truth, testifies as follows:

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: If you would please state your full
21 name for the record.

22 MR. KINNEY: Edwin Thompson Kinney.

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Awesome. There should be some
24 documents there in front of you. If you would
25 please take a moment to review those.

1 MR. KINNEY: Yes, sir.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are those the personal data
3 questionnaire and the sworn statement that you
4 submitted to the commission?

5 MR. KINNEY: They are.

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are there any updates or changes you
7 need to make?

8 MR. KINNEY: No, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you have any objections to our
10 including those in the record?

11 MR. KINNEY: No objection.

12 (EXHIBIT NO. 14 MARKED FOR
13 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (19 pages)
14 PDQ)

15 (EXHIBIT NO. 15 MARKED FOR
16 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (7 pages)
17 Sworn statement)

18 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Let me give staff just a
19 moment to do that. The Judicial Selection
20 Commission has thoroughly investigated your
21 qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry has
22 focused on the nine evaluative criteria and has
23 included a thorough examination of your
24 application materials, a ballot box survey,
25 verification of your compliance with state ethics

1 laws, a search of newspaper articles in which
2 your name appears, a study of any previous
3 screenings, and a check for economic conflicts of
4 interest. We received no affidavits filed in
5 opposition to your election. No witnesses are
6 present to testify, but before recognizing
7 counsel or giving you the opportunity to make a
8 brief opening statement, I noticed that some fine
9 young folks have followed you into the room, and
10 we would love to have an opportunity to meet them
11 if you'd like to introduce them or not, and we'll
12 just pretend this moment didn't happen. It's up
13 to you.

14 MR. KINNEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is my
15 wife, Ashley Kinney, and this is my brother, Will
16 Kinney.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Great. Thank you both for being
18 here. Appreciate you being here on this sunny
19 afternoon. I think it's sunny out there. I'm
20 looking out the window. I've been in here since
21 a long time ago. In here it's sunny. All right.
22 As I say, Mr. Kinney, if you'd like to make a
23 brief opening statement, I'd be happy to hear
24 from you. Otherwise, I would recognize counsel
25 for questions.

1 MR. KINNEY: I would just thank y'all for letting me
2 be here, and I would defer the opening statement.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Mr. Austin.

4 EXAMINATION

5 MR. AUSTIN:

6 **Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Kinney.**

7 **A. Good afternoon.**

8 **Q. Would you please state for the record the city and**
9 **circuit in which you reside?**

10 **A. I reside in Sumter in the Third Judicial Circuit.**

11 MR. AUSTIN: Mr. Chairman, I would note for the record
12 that based on the testimony contained in the
13 candidate's PDQ, which has been included in the
14 record with the candidate's consent, Mr. Kinney
15 meets the statutory requirements for this
16 position regarding age, residence, and years of
17 practice.

18 **Q. Mr. Kinney, why do you want to serve as a family court**
19 **judge, and why do you feel that your legal and**
20 **professional experience qualify and will assist you to**
21 **be an effective judge?**

22 **A. Thank you. Well, you know, I really believe in the**
23 **idea of vocation and the idea of a calling to, you**
24 **know, something that's meaningful, and I think this is**
25 **a career path that I think would be very meaningful to**

1 me. It's kind of where I believe my skill set and the
2 deep needs of this state and our community kind of
3 meet, and I'm very excited about the opportunity to
4 serve as a family court judge. I have been very
5 fortunate to have a really wide range of family court
6 experience in my time of practice. I practice
7 privately and represent parents and mothers and
8 fathers in divorces and child custody cases. I'm a
9 guardian ad litem in a lot of highly contested child
10 custody cases. I serve as a family court mediator
11 where I mediate disputes and try to help people come
12 to resolution before going to court. I have a lot of
13 experience on what I would call the public docket, the
14 DSS cases where I've represented parents. I've been
15 appointed to represent parents in abuse and neglect
16 cases and termination of parental rights cases, and
17 I've been a public defender and appointed counsel and
18 juvenile -- defended juveniles. And now I'm a public
19 -- I'm the prosecutor in Sumter and Clarendon
20 counties. I'm part-time. I'm a juvenile prosecutor,
21 so I manage the juvenile docket in those two counties,
22 and so all that to say, I think I have a really wide
23 range of experience in family court, and I'm humbled
24 to have the chance to offer to serve my community and
25 my state.

1 Q. Thank you. Mr. Kinney, you sort of answered a bit of
2 this already, but I would like to ask you, are there
3 any areas of the law for which you would need
4 additional preparation in order to serve as a family
5 court judge, and how would you handle that additional
6 preparation if needed?

7 A. Well, I've been fortunate to have -- I've kind of done
8 it all in family court, but I, you know, there's, in
9 our community there's probably less high net worth
10 divorces than some of the bigger communities in our
11 state, but I'm very familiar with the concepts, and
12 I've done the division of property and the division of
13 debt, but I certainly would rely on counsel, rely on
14 attorneys in those types of cases, and would continue
15 to keep myself abreast of the law and to really kind
16 of stay updated on all the changes in the law, but,
17 you know, I feel fortunate to be prepared and have
18 good experience, but I certainly would always be
19 learning and to gain more experience as I go.

20 Q. Thank you. And to just follow up on that, Mr. Kinney,
21 would you briefly describe your experience in handling
22 complex or contested family court matters,
23 specifically, specific experience with financial
24 aspects of that family court work a little bit?

25 A. Yes, sir. I've been involved in a lot of highly

1 contested custody cases, particularly as a guardian ad
2 litem. I've had a lot of relocation cases where I've
3 had to travel out of state, flown somewhere across the
4 country to do an investigation where there was a hotly
5 contested issue about one parent wanting to relocate.
6 I've had a lot of experience in military cases, being
7 from Sumter, Shaw, the Army and Air Force are there,
8 so we have a lot of people that live in South
9 Carolina, but get PCS'd elsewhere, so that's an area
10 that I've had really good experience in. I have had a
11 lot of experience in military divorces, but on the
12 financial aspects as well, with dividing retirement
13 plans, TSP, survivor benefit plan, it kind of is
14 another wrinkle of complexity, and I've been fortunate
15 to be able to represent parties in those types of
16 cases as well.

17 **Q. Thank you. Mr. Kinney, the Commission received 146**
18 **ballot box surveys regarding you, with 30 additional**
19 **comments which were overwhelmingly positive. The**
20 **ballot box survey, for example, contained the**
21 **following positive comments: Excellent attorney and**
22 **will be a wonderful addition to the bench. Thompson**
23 **Kinney has the perfect disposition for a judge. He is**
24 **smart and knowledgeable on the law, his demeanor is**
25 **always calm, and he listens to all sides.**

1 Level-headed, fair, and consistent. There was only
2 one negative comment which expressed some concern with
3 your work ethic. What response would you offer to
4 that concern?

5 A. I don't really know exactly what that -- I was a
6 little surprised by that comment. I like to think
7 that I've always had a good work ethic. I've started
8 my own law firm and have built a really busy caseload,
9 but I certainly take it to heart and know that there
10 was some time where somebody got that impression of
11 me, and it's very humbling to hear that type of
12 comment, and I certainly take it to heart and will
13 ensure -- but I would disagree with it, but I
14 certainly would do some self-reflection on that point.

15 Q. Thank you. Mr. Kinney, since your last screening,
16 you've been involved in two lawsuits. The first
17 lawsuit in 2024 was filed in the result of an
18 automobile accident in Sumter County, and you were
19 appointed as a special administrator for Carl B. Jones
20 for the purposes of allowing proceedings to be brought
21 against the decedent's estate. Could you just briefly
22 explain the nature and disposition of the lawsuit?

23 A. Yes, sir. I was asked by another attorney, a
24 colleague of mine, to be the special administrator on
25 a gentleman that was deceased, and they had to open

1 the estate to be able to file a lawsuit, and so my
2 role was ministerial to apply to be the special
3 administrator and then to accept service, and that was
4 my limited nature in that case.

5 **Q. Thank you. And the second lawsuit also filed in 2024**
6 **was the result of an automobile accident in Sumter**
7 **County, and you were appointed as the special**
8 **administrator for the estate of Rosa Lee Lowry Jones**
9 **for the sole purpose of bringing a suit on the**
10 **decedent's behalf. Could you just briefly explain**
11 **that one as well?**

12 **A.** The same thing. I have done this from time to time
13 where a colleague of mine have asked me to do that.
14 For the same exact purpose, to be the special
15 administrator to accept service on behalf of the
16 estate of a deceased person.

17 **Q. Okay. And shifting focus just a little bit. How**
18 **would you handle a potential conflict of interest**
19 **involving you or a family member?**

20 **A.** I would -- I would be very cautious. I know we have a
21 duty under the Canons to sit when possible and to hear
22 cases, but I think it's very -- you know, I think
23 seriously the idea of any appearance of impropriety
24 and would certainly be very cautious and proceed with
25 caution in accordance with the Canons.

1 Q. Thank you. I would note that the Pee Dee Citizens
2 Committee found Mr. Kinney qualified in the evaluative
3 criteria of constitutional qualifications, physical
4 health, and mental stability. The committee found him
5 well qualified in the evaluative criteria of ethical
6 fitness, professionalism, and academic ability,
7 character, reputation, experience, and judicial
8 temperament. The committee provided no additional
9 summary. Just a few housekeeping issues. JMSC
10 procedural Rule 17 includes a prohibition of any
11 candidate from attending or watching any portion of
12 the live stream or recordings of the public hearings
13 of this cycle until after all hearings are concluded.
14 Have you watched or listened to any of the hearings
15 before your appearance today?

16 A. No, I have not.

17 Q. Has any other person relayed any information about any
18 of the proceedings before this commission to you?

19 A. No, sir.

20 Q. Mr. Kinney, are you aware that as a judicial
21 candidate, you are bound by the Code of Judicial
22 Conduct as found in Rule 501 of the South Carolina
23 Appellate Court Rules?

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. Mr. Kinney, since submitting your letter of intent,

1 have you contacted any members of the commission about
2 your candidacy?

3 A. No, I have not.

4 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including the
5 limitations on contacting members of the General
6 Assembly regarding your screening?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
9 sought or received the pledge of any legislator either
10 prior to the state or pending the outcome of your
11 screening?

12 A. No, sir.

13 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
14 the General Assembly on your behalf or are you aware
15 of anyone attempting to intervene in this process on
16 your behalf?

17 A. No, sir.

18 Q. Have you reviewed and do you understand that the
19 commission's guidelines on pledging and South Carolina
20 Code 2-19-70(E)?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 MR. AUSTIN: I would just note for the record that any
23 concerns raised during the investigation
24 regarding the candidate were incorporated into
25 the questioning of the candidate today. Mr.

1 Chairman, I have no further questions.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Members of the
3 commission have questions. Mr. Stegmaier?

4 MR. STEGMAIER: Mr. Kinney, good afternoon.

5 MR. KINNEY: Good afternoon.

6 MR. STEGMAIER: When I was examining your record ahead
7 of the hearing, I noted that you had worked for
8 General Mulligan.

9 MR. KINNEY: Yes, sir.

10 MR. STEGMAIER: I consider him a true renaissance man.
11 What was that experience like? I'm assuming you
12 consider him a mentor.

13 MR. KINNEY: I do. He's also my uncle.

14 MR. STEGMAIER: Okay.

15 MR. KINNEY: So full disclosure.

16 MR. STEGMAIER: Okay.

17 MR. KINNEY: But Tom is a mentor of mine. I went to
18 work with him right out of law school and my
19 brother used to work with him as well when he was
20 in private practice. You know, he really taught
21 me how to do things right. I really consider him
22 a mentor about the way he operated his firm, but
23 the interesting thing that he allowed me to do
24 was to do new things, including family court. He
25 allowed me to have the freedom to go and get the

1 public defender contracts and to start doing
2 cases of legal services when I first started.
3 And he really gave me -- he wanted me to go out
4 and find new things to do, and that's how I ended
5 up building my own practice and then went off and
6 started my own firm. He is family, but he's also
7 a dear mentor to me. I certainly agree with your
8 assessment, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Representative Jordan. My
10 apologies.

11 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Welcome.

12 MR. KINNEY: Thank you.

13 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Help me remember a couple
14 things. You were here last year, correct?

15 MR. KINNEY: That's correct.

16 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: And I seem to remember there
17 was a little bit of a question. I think you were
18 moving to Sumter last year.

19 MR. KINNEY: That's correct, sir.

20 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Made the move fully into the
21 community now it sounds like it seems.

22 MR. KINNEY: That's right, sir. So last year we had
23 just we're under contract on a house and we were
24 moving back to Sumter as I was running. And me
25 and my wife are both from Sumter and we made the

1 move in last spring and we're there and it's been
2 wonderful. I hope my wife agrees with me. We
3 won't make her say that on the record maybe, but
4 I think she agrees. Our children are in school.
5 I have a five minute commute to work now and so
6 it's been wonderful and I'm very thankful that me
7 running last time sort of got the process moving
8 to Sumter and I'm here. I didn't expect to be
9 here again this year, honestly, but here I am and
10 I'm very thankful.

11 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Well, as I remember last year,
12 it was the bottom line was there's just two
13 really good candidates, you and Judge Buxton, I
14 think.

15 MR. KINNEY: That's correct.

16 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: And I'm glad to see you back.

17 MR. KINNEY: Yes, sir.

18 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Because I think your screening
19 went smoothly last time.

20 MR. KINNEY: Yes.

21 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Everything went smooth.

22 MR. KINNEY: Thank you, sir.

23 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Glad you're acclimated in
24 Sumter. Sorry you're going to lose to the
25 Florence athletic teams when they play each

1 other.

2 MR. KINNEY: Well, yes, sir. We had a couple of those
3 games this year. That's correct.

4 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: I'll cut it short for other
5 members, but again, glad to see you back.

6 MR. KINNEY: Yes, sir. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator Walker.

8 SENATOR WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And really, my
9 comment is for the edification of the group. But
10 I had the opportunity to be on the other side of
11 a case with Mr. Kinney. I think at that time you
12 were an assistant city attorney or city
13 prosecutor for Forest Acres.

14 MR. KINNEY: Right, that's correct.

15 SENATOR WALKER: And I can tell you he has a good feel
16 for cases, very balanced perspective, even keel,
17 smart. And I've also seen you in action over in
18 Sumter. And so if there's anyone who has
19 questions about his work ethic, well, you know,
20 he was taking on indigent defense cases, and he
21 was back and forth between Columbia and Sumter.
22 And so I've just seen firsthand your work ethic,
23 but also just being on the other side of the case
24 with you and just know that you are very smart.
25 And I'm glad that you have offered yourself once

1 again, serve the people of South Carolina, but
2 this time in a much wider capacity. So I hope it
3 goes well for you.

4 MR. KINNEY: Thank you, Senator.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Kinney, I join my colleagues and
6 thank you for offering for service. I would be
7 remiss if I didn't take note of the letters of
8 recommendation that you have, which all reflect
9 highly on you. And so as to not disappoint Mr.
10 McElveen, I will mention his name in public. He
11 likes it when you talk about him in various
12 forum. And he wrote a wonderful letter on your
13 behalf. So if you see the good senator before I
14 do, please say hello for us.

15 MR. KINNEY: Yes, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Also, and perhaps by way of closing
17 out here, I want to just make sure that we share
18 with you some of the feedback that we got through
19 the ballot box survey that is really a credit to
20 you and the work that you've done and the
21 reputation you have earned as a lawyer and as a
22 person. As you heard earlier, you know, this is
23 replete with reference to being even tempered,
24 incredibly smart and talented, perfect demeanor,
25 hardworking, conscientious, smart, kind and

1 considerate, but no pushover. One comment stuck
2 with me. Thompson isn't just a great lawyer,
3 he's a great person. I think that matters. And
4 insofar as we can do anything in this commission
5 to help elevate our state's judiciary through the
6 determination of qualification for great people,
7 I think we ought to do that. And I appreciate
8 you being that person that we can perhaps, we'll
9 see, find qualified and empowered to serve and
10 represent our profession and our judiciary. So
11 thank you with all of that. Yeah, let me just
12 stop there. Thank you. Again, this will
13 conclude this portion of the screening process.

14 MR. KINNEY: Yes, sir.

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I do need to note that pursuant to
16 the commission's evaluative criteria, the
17 commission expects candidates to follow the
18 letter as well as the spirit of our state's
19 ethics laws, and we would view any violation or
20 appearance of impropriety as very serious and
21 potentially deserving of heavy weight in our
22 screening deliberations. And as you know, the
23 record will remain open until the formal release
24 of the qualifications report and should the need
25 arise, we can call you back to have a discussion

1 about that if, again, the need were to arise.

2 You understand all of that?

3 MR. KINNEY: Yes, sir.

4 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Wonderful. Thank you. Thank you
5 for being here. Wish you and your wife well as
6 you travel home safely. And, Will, if you're
7 staying, great. If you're leaving, I hope you
8 travel safely too. Thank you all.

9 MR. KINNEY: Thank you all.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Wish you a great afternoon.

11 MR. KINNEY: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: With that, upon motion of Mr.
13 Stegmaier, seconded by Mr. Protopapas, we will go
14 into executive session to receive a legal
15 briefing.

16 (OFF THE RECORD)

17 (Executive session was held from 12:23 to 1:51)

18 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Good afternoon everyone. We will go
19 back on the record as we have come out of
20 executive session. For the record, while we were
21 in executive session receiving a legal briefing,
22 no decisions were made and no votes were taken.
23 We will resume with our screenings of candidates.
24 Today before us, we have Ms. Marissa Jacobson,
25 who is a candidate for Seat 7 in the 9th Circuit

1 Family Court. Do I have that right?

2 MS. JACOBSON: Yes.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: If you would, please, raise your
4 right hand.

5 WHEREUPON:

6 MARISSA JACOBSON, being duly sworn and
7 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
8 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. If you would,
10 please state your full name for the record.

11 MS. JACOBSON: Marissa K. Jacobson.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ms. Jacobson, there should be some
13 documents in front of you. If you would, please
14 take a moment to review those.

15 MS. JACOBSON: Okay.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are those the personal data
17 questionnaire and sworn statement that you have
18 submitted to the commission?

19 MS. JACOBSON: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are there any updates or changes that
21 need to be made to those?

22 MS. JACOBSON: No.

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Do you have any objection
24 to our including those in the record?

25 MS. JACOBSON: I do not.

1 (EXHIBIT NO. 16 MARKED FOR
2 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (16 pages)
3 PDQ)

4 (EXHIBIT NO. 17 MARKED FOR
5 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (7 pages)
6 Sworn statement)

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Let me give staff just a
8 moment to do that. The Judicial Merit Selection
9 Commission has thoroughly investigated your
10 qualifications for the bench. Our investigation,
11 excuse me, our inquiry has focused on the nine
12 evaluative criteria and has included a thorough
13 review of your application materials, a ballot
14 box survey, a verification of your compliance
15 with state ethics laws, search of newspaper
16 articles in which your name appears, a study of
17 any previous screenings, and a check for economic
18 conflicts of interest. We have received no
19 affidavits filed in opposition to your election,
20 and there are no witnesses here to testify. If
21 you'd like to make a brief opening statement, I'd
22 be happy to hear from you. Otherwise, I would
23 recognize staff counsel to begin with some
24 questions.

25 MS. JACOBSON: I would just like to say thank you all

1 for your service and commitment to this process.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. Ms. Baker?

3 EXAMINATION

4 BY MS. BAKER:

5 **Q. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Jacobson, please state**
6 **for the record the city and circuit in which you**
7 **reside?**

8 A. Charleston County, and Ninth Judicial Circuit.

9 **Q. Thank you.**

10 MS. BAKER: Mr. Chairman, I note for the record that
11 based on the testimony contained in the
12 candidate's PDQ, which has been included in the
13 record with the candidate's consent, Marissa
14 Jacobson meets the statutory requirements for
15 this position regarding age, residence, and years
16 of practice.

17 **Q. Ms. Jacobson, why do you want to serve as a family**
18 **court judge, and why do you feel like your legal and**
19 **professional experience qualify and will assist you to**
20 **be an effective judge?**

21 A. Well, I would like to be a family court judge because
22 it would be an opportunity to serve the community.
23 It's an opportunity to give back to the legal
24 profession. There's an opportunity to protect
25 children and an opportunity to overall improve the

1 family court experience for litigants, attorneys,
2 people who come into the court room.

3 **Q. Thank you. Ms. Jacobson, are there any areas of the**
4 **law for which you would need additional preparation in**
5 **order to serve as a family court judge and how would**
6 **you handle that additional preparation?**

7 A. I don't believe that I would need any additional
8 preparation. And if I could go back to the last
9 question and share my experience with everyone. So I
10 have been on a family court practitioner for the last
11 20 years. I've had a very well-rounded law practice.
12 I've had an opportunity to represent litigants and
13 serve wards in nearly every type of family court
14 litigation that comes before the family court. I
15 believe that this gives me a unique and balanced
16 perspective that would translate well on the family
17 court bench. I've handled marital litigation, simple
18 and extremely complicated. I've handled contested
19 custody matters, grandparent visitation and custody.
20 I've served as a guardian ad litem in private divorce
21 matters, in DJJ matters, in DSS matters, and for
22 vulnerable adults. I've represented minors in
23 Department of Juvenile Justice actions. I've handled
24 domestic abuse matters, termination of parental rights
25 matters and adoptions, I've brought those and I've

1 defended against those. I've handled cases where --
2 children are in foster care, but they are also dually
3 involved in DJJ. I've handled cases that involve sex
4 trafficking and child pornography. I'm a certified
5 family court mediator. I appear before the court two
6 to three times a week, and I believe I have the proper
7 temperament and ability to serve as family court
8 judge.

9 **Q. Thank you. And you've touched on this with your last**
10 **response, but could you describe your experience in**
11 **handling complex contested family court matters and**
12 **specifically discuss your experience with the**
13 **financial aspects of family court work?**

14 **A.** As far as complex contested custody matters, I've
15 handled contested custody matters that include
16 relocation, custody matters that involve children with
17 special needs, custody matters where there may be
18 parental alienation, custody matters where a child's
19 fate may hang in the balance. As far as financial
20 matters, I have handled every type of alimony,
21 equitable division. I have helped divide multi-
22 million dollar businesses for litigants. I'm familiar
23 with comparative market analyses, enterprise good
24 will, personal good will, and business valuations as
25 well.

1 Q. Thank you. Ms. Jacobson, the Commission received 152
2 ballot box surveys regarding you with 41 additional
3 comments. The ballot box survey, for example, contain
4 the following positive comments: Marissa is an
5 exceptional attorney with an even temperament and
6 demeanor that would be welcomed as a judge. She is
7 organized, knowledgeable, respectful, and well-
8 respected in the legal community. Ms. Jacobson is
9 well-rounded, experienced family law attorney. She
10 has experience in all aspects of family court. She
11 has a good personality and understands the demands of
12 being a family court judge. She'd make an excellent
13 addition to the bench. And finally, She has a vast
14 knowledge of family law, including complex custody and
15 marital litigation, juvenile defense, child support
16 cases, and DSS cases in which she defends her clients
17 zealously. Nine of the written comments expressed
18 concerns, while many positive comments noted your
19 experience in family court, approximately five
20 indicated that you did not have the experience in
21 family court to be a judge. What response would you
22 offer to this concern?

23 A. It's possible that someone is not aware of the
24 experience that I have. Perhaps they work in a
25 different county. Perhaps they haven't seen me in 10

1 years. I continue to practice in every area of family
2 law, continue to always be learning. I would just say
3 that I do feel like I have proper experience to serve
4 as a family court judge.

5 Q. Thank you. And Ms. Jacobson, the other concern
6 indicated that you lacked professionalism in the
7 courtroom. What response would you offer to this
8 concern regarding your professionalism in the
9 courtroom?

10 A. Well, I hate to hear that. I hate that someone was
11 left with that impression. It's an important issue.
12 I'll take it under advisement and act appropriately
13 accordingly.

14 Q. Thank you. Ms. Jacobson, since your last screening,
15 you were named in a lawsuit in federal court.
16 However, it appears you were never served and this
17 matter has been dismissed. Is that your understanding
18 of this case?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. How would you handle a potential conflict of interest
21 involving -- potential conflicts of interest involving
22 you or a family member?

23 A. I would follow the judicial canons and use those as my
24 guide and recuse myself.

25 Q. I would note that the Low Country Citizens Committee

1 found Ms. Jacobson qualified in the evaluative
2 criteria of constitutional qualifications, physical
3 health and mental stability, and well-qualified in the
4 evaluative criteria of ethical fitness, professional
5 and academic ability, character, reputation,
6 experience, and judicial temperament. The committee
7 also commented: very good experience, reasonable,
8 fair, understanding, has worked all sides of family
9 court, affable, well-qualified, and caring. And just
10 a few housekeeping issues. JMSC procedural Rule 17
11 includes the prohibition of any candidate from
12 attending or watching any portion of the livestream or
13 recordings of the public hearings of this cycle until
14 after all hearings are concluded. Have you watched or
15 listened to any of these hearings before your
16 appearance today?

17 A. I have not.

18 Q. Have any other person relayed any information about
19 any of the proceedings before this commission to you?

20 A. No, ma'am.

21 Q. Ms. Jacobson, are you aware that as a judicial
22 candidate, you are bound by the Code of Judicial
23 Conduct as found in Rule 501 of the South Carolina
24 Appellate Court Rules?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
2 contacted any members of the Commission about your
3 candidacy?

4 A. I have not.

5 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including the
6 limitations on contacting members of the General
7 Assembly regarding your screening?

8 A. I am.

9 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
10 sought or received the pledge of any legislator either
11 prior to this date or pending the outcome of your
12 screening?

13 A. I have not.

14 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
15 the General Assembly on your behalf or are you aware
16 of anyone attempting to intervene in this process on
17 your behalf?

18 A. I have not and I do not.

19 Q. Have you reviewed and do you understand the
20 Commission's guidelines on pledging and South Carolina
21 Code Section 2-19-70(e)?

22 A. Yes, ma'am.

23 Q. I would just note for the record that any concerns
24 raised during the investigation regarding the
25 candidate were incorporated into the questioning of

1 **the candidate today.**

2 MS. BAKER: Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. Members of the
4 Commission have questions? Mr. Protopapas?

5 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Thank you. Welcome.

6 MS. JACOBSON: Thank you.

7 MR. PROTOPAPAS: You said in your introduction that you
8 wanted to improve the family court experience.
9 Can you explain what is -- what is it you see in
10 the family court experience now that you think is
11 problematic that would need improvement?

12 MS. JACOBSON: Well, there are a few things. As far as
13 improving the family court experience, I'm
14 speaking about for litigants. I hear frequently
15 that they are not comfortable in the family court
16 and that they do not feel they are being heard.
17 And being heard in a family court is the most
18 important thing to someone who is there. Every
19 family court case is extremely important,
20 especially to the person whose life it's
21 affecting, and that's every single person that
22 comes through the family court. So continuing to
23 improve the system by listening, letting people
24 be heard, making them feel comfortable when they
25 walk in the courtroom. It's a public courtroom.

1 I think that family court could get up to speed
2 with e-filing. I think that that would be
3 helpful. Always bringing attention to civility,
4 which sometimes can be an issue. Especially when
5 there are emotionally charged cases such as
6 family court. So those are a few examples of how
7 I think that I could improve the family court.

8 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Would you agree with me that civility
9 is set by the bench?

10 MS. JACOBSON: I believe that we all have an oath of
11 civility, attorneys and judges. And I take that
12 oath very seriously, and I hope that others do as
13 well.

14 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Sure. But if a judge shows
15 incivility, wouldn't you believe that it also
16 encourages incivility within the court itself
17 with lawyers to perform?

18 MS. JACOBSON: Absolutely.

19 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And so as a -- as a applicant of
20 somebody who is putting themselves forward to be a
21 judge if you were to become a judge, how would
22 you enforce civility within your courtroom?

23 MS. JACOBSON: Well, the way that other judges do, by
24 bringing to litigants' and/or attorneys'
25 attention in a respectful, non-demeaning, non-

1 humiliating manner that we have all taken an oath
2 of civility, and that the court expects that
3 everyone do so.

4 MR. PROTOPAPAS: So in those highly charged moments
5 within the family court, there's a balance that's
6 happening. Right? One is you're going to have
7 to make a decision, and someone is going to be
8 upset. And that's fair. That's what judges have
9 to do. However, what a judge aligned appears to
10 be that when you don't either humiliate,
11 embarrass, or unduly harass a litigant before
12 that judge. Right?

13 MS. JACOBSON: Absolutely. I think that you're right,
14 that sometimes there's going to be bad news
15 coming out of a family court decision. How you
16 deliver that news to a litigant and/or an
17 attorney is very valuable. Nonverbal and verbal
18 communication needs to always be respectful,
19 restrained, calm, pleasant.

20 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And a litigant could be represented
21 by an attorney from, say, Richland County or
22 Greenville County or anywhere and be down in
23 Berkeley. Right?

24 MS. JACOBSON: Sure.

25 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And that lawyer should be treated the

1 same as any of the local lawyers?

2 MS. JACOBSON: Absolutely. Everyone that comes in the
3 courtroom should be treated exactly the same.

4 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And if you were to be a judge in
5 Berkeley County, you wouldn't show preference or
6 deference to a local attorney over an attorney
7 from a different jurisdiction. Would you?

8 MS. JACOBSON: I would not.

9 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And you'd find that an inappropriate
10 conduct for a judge to act that way?

11 MS. JACOBSON: Yes. I believe some people call that
12 home cooking. And I haven't really seen that
13 happen, but I've heard about it.

14 MR. PROTOPAPAS: You've not seen home cooking?

15 MS. JACOBSON: I've been very fortunate to appear in
16 front of judges that I believe are excellent
17 judges, and I have not experienced that. I have
18 heard of others experiencing that. I'm aware of
19 what you're talking about, and that would not
20 take place if I were to become a family court
21 judge.

22 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And so walk through me with this -- a
23 little bit through your practice right now. So
24 you're in private practice. You're a solo.

25 MS. JACOBSON: That's right.

1 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Okay. And 10 percent of your practice
2 is criminal?

3 MS. JACOBSON: Probably.

4 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And the part that is family, how much
5 of that is DSS related?

6 MS. JACOBSON: I'd say probably 40 percent.

7 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And then the balance of that practice
8 is just private litigants?

9 MS. JACOBSON: Private litigation. And I do private
10 guardian ad litem work as well.

11 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And how much is -- how much of your
12 practice is private guardian work?

13 MS. JACOBSON: What percentage are we at? 60? I mean,
14 maybe 20.

15 MR. PROTOPAPAS: I can start making it up.

16 MS. JACOBSON: Okay. If we're at 60, then I would say
17 20.

18 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Got it. So you've got 10 percent
19 criminal, 40 percent DSS related, 20 percent
20 would be guardian ad litem, so 30 percent would
21 be private practice? Something like that?

22 MS. JACOBSON: That's right.

23 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Okay. So in the 30 percent of your
24 practice that deals with private divorce, how
25 many of them have gone to trial, like in the last

1 12 months?

2 MS. JACOBSON: None have gone to trial in the last 12
3 months. However, I do have one that is pending
4 right now for a five day trial. And it should be
5 heard some time in 2026.

6 MR. PROTOPAPAS: How many times do you have to retain
7 a CPA or other business valuation expert in your
8 cases? Is it every case, is it every now and
9 then?

10 MS. JACOBSON: Not necessarily. It just depends on
11 the complexity of the financial issues. If it's
12 just adding and subtracting and it's a mortgage
13 or, you know, very finite assets, I don't have a
14 problem handling those. But if we're talking
15 about dividing large businesses, other -- more
16 complicated assets, like trusts or things of
17 that nature, then absolutely, I'm bringing in a
18 forensic accountant.

19 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Have you dealt with the trust issue
20 within a divorce setting?

21 MS. JACOBSON: I have not. I've dealt with a personal
22 representative coming in for a deceased person
23 in the midst of litigation. So I guess you
24 could say the estate of.

25 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Have you dealt with a situation where

1 a litigant would have created a set-aside trust
2 or a springing trust one in which would be used
3 to hide marital assets for a future divorce?

4 MS. JACOBSON: I haven't been -- I haven't run across
5 that thus far.

6 MR. PROTOPAPAS: You see that the jurisdiction of the
7 family court is one which could reach into a
8 marital asset, even if it has been cloaked in
9 the hands of a third-party, be it an LLC a trust
10 or something of that nature?

11 MS. JACOBSON: Full financial disclosure is very
12 important in family court.

13 MR. PROTOPAPAS: And you would expect all litigants
14 and enforce the rules necessary that all
15 litigants have full disclosure regardless of how
16 they shielded legal ownership of an equitable
17 piece of property in family court?

18 MS. JACOBSON: You can only divide a martial estate if
19 you have captured the entire marital estate.

20 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Is there a family court judge that
21 you've been before that you would like to
22 emulate when on the bench?

23 MS. JACOBSON: Judge Alice Anne Richter is one judge
24 that I really enjoy appearing in front of. And
25 Judge Daniel Martin is another judge that I

1 believe -- they both have wonderful demeanors,
2 they are very thoughtful. I enjoy practicing in
3 front of them.

4 MR. PROTOPAPAS: Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Other members of the -- pardon me.

6 Other members of the Commission have questions?
7 Senator Rankin?

8 SENATOR RANKIN: Just a few. And I applaud your
9 candidacy. You have been before here, and I --
10 forgive me for not recalling exactly. How long
11 ago was that?

12 MS. JACOBSON: Six years.

13 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. And that was for a family
14 court position?

15 MS. JACOBSON: That's right. For the 9th Judicial
16 Circuit.

17 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. And I remember your
18 husband fondly in, I think, prior screenings.
19 He is retired hallelujah or retired?

20 MS. JACOBSON: He's very happy to be retired. He's
21 living his best life. He's --

22 SENATOR RANKIN: Is his name Joel Osteen?

23 MS. JACOBSON: No. He is doing mediation,
24 arbitration, and he's actually picked up a few
25 extra roles in HBO series.

1 SENATOR RANKIN: Wow. I will not go --

2 MS. JACOBSON: So he's kind of a movie star now.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: I'm not going to chase that rabbit
4 for the benefit of -- that will be another
5 conversation. And the -- in this math game that
6 you were playing as you were equitably dividing
7 your time percentage-wise, you list mediation as
8 well in terms of what you're doing since 2000
9 and --

10 MS. JACOBSON: I believe for the last three or four
11 years, I've been working as a certified family
12 court mediator.

13 SENATOR RANKIN: And I'm curious as to what percentage
14 of your practice, not dollars but time, to go
15 into the Peter Protopapas mix of days and hours?

16 MS. JACOBSON: I should have considered that in my
17 calculations, but I would say I generally
18 mediate about two to three cases a month.

19 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. So percentage of your
20 time in that month is approximately -- all of
21 that is family court. Correct?

22 MS. JACOBSON: All family court mediation. Trying to
23 help people come to resolutions.

24 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. And that in the advent of
25 no jury trials -- or they are, but not in family

1 court. But the waning of jury trials across the
2 landscape of common pleas, general sessions,
3 etc. Similarly, I guess, in terms of trials or
4 conflicts in cases that go to trial at the
5 family court, do you find that mediation is
6 becoming more and more successful and helps
7 judges and helps the litigants?

8 MS. JACOBSON: Absolutely. I believe the majority of
9 cases do settle. And we have excellent
10 mediators in the Lowcountry that I work with
11 when I have cases. You know, the goal -- at
12 least, my philosophy as an attorney is to
13 attempt to get an agreement for my client if I
14 can. That's favorable to them. And I do see
15 most cases resolve in mediation. Sometimes
16 family court judges, if the case is very
17 complicated, may order a second round of
18 mediation. And sometimes that is successful.
19 And if you can't settle a case with mediation,
20 try it.

21 SENATOR RANKIN: There are areas of the state, some
22 that are highlighted as the more contentious
23 areas. And I would suggest to you, you're in
24 it.

25 MS. JACOBSON: I believe so.

1 SENATOR RANKIN: And you're adjoining Low Country
2 water drinking areas, Charleston perhaps.

3 MS. JACOBSON: I'm born and raised in Charleston. I'm
4 familiar with the bar. I grew up with this bar.
5 I've been interested in practicing law since I
6 was 12 years old. I've always been surrounded
7 around attorneys. And I've always been taught
8 by the wonderful mentors that I've had that
9 civility is of the utmost importance. And I
10 would continue to echo that if I were to become
11 a family court judge.

12 SENATOR RANKIN: Well, and two of earlier questions,
13 and I -- either it is so, or it is just legend
14 that folks like to point out that there -- your
15 area and the Charleston area, fraught with
16 incivility and lawyers that apparently are
17 litigants that just can't get along and the run
18 to the judge and they charge the bejeebers out
19 of their clients, and the they run back to the
20 judge. Is that endemic of that area, or is it
21 just the culture right now, or what do you
22 attribute that to, and did you see that in your
23 own practice, and do you see it in the mediation
24 world?

25 MS. JACOBSON: Resources help litigate, so people who

1 have a lot of money can litigate longer. And
2 there just may be more pockets of wealth in
3 certain areas of Charleston. It's possible.

4 SENATOR RANKIN: But resources or not, I mean, in
5 terms of encouraging either behavior or
6 efficiency, again, have -- you've seen that, I
7 guess, with some of the wealthier cases and
8 clients that you've tried to mediate. I'm all
9 for attorneys making a living and, again, not to
10 say that one does it wrong if they're charging.
11 But I'm curious, and I do believe that you will
12 have a unique role, and not just bystander, as a
13 participant, but the people of the state will
14 depend on you to demand civility and punish
15 lawyers or litigants who waste the court's time
16 or waste the other side's money fighting over
17 stupid, frivolous things. So how --

18 MS. JACOBSON: Well, there are sanctions available,
19 attorney's fees. Usually money makes people
20 stop.

21 SENATOR RANKIN: So you're nodding your head in
22 affirmation of that, I guess, statement. But
23 how do you particularly, different perhaps in
24 others that you've seen. How do you see
25 yourself taking the reigns and pulling that

1 runaway billing horse or crazy case from mutual
2 destruction. How do you see your role as --
3 MS. JACOBSON: Well, we do have a 365 day benchmark
4 for cases in family court. They often last
5 longer than one year, but they are supposed to
6 be filed and resolved within a year if possible.
7 Sometimes finding court time for a trial may be
8 challenging, that may extend a case. Cases can
9 take on different, I guess, elements, things pop
10 up. But I understand that a family court judge
11 does need to keep people in line as far as being
12 appropriate in court, not wasting the court's
13 time, not filing frivolous motions. I'm aware
14 of that. I don't always believe that that -- I
15 don't believe that's the majority. I just think
16 that probably it's the minority, and that's what
17 you hear about the most.

18 SENATOR RANKIN: So -- and earlier hearings over the
19 last six and half to 10 weeks that we've been
20 here since yesterday, one line of questioning,
21 again, by our friend over here, the
22 mathematician, the -- and in all candor here,
23 your job is more fraught with life and death
24 consequences of not just someone being sentenced
25 to death in a capital case or time in a general

1 sessions case, or money in a common pleas case.
2 But families being torn or reunited. I'm told,
3 and I've witnessed, adoption day is the happiest
4 day, happiest day of a family court judge. But
5 to you, the person not the judge, how do you
6 foresee maintaining a healthy mental balance and
7 not being burdened by the things that you've
8 talked about at your opening, all that you've
9 done? How do you keep your peace and your hope?

10 MS. JACOBSON: I'm just very -- I'm very reasonable.

11 I believe in wellness, being compassionate. You
12 know, I try not to engage if someone else is
13 ugly. Practicing law, there are ways to put up,
14 I guess, protections in that way. It really
15 does not happen to me very regularly. I get
16 along very well with the majority of the bar.
17 So that does not really happen to be -- I think
18 if people see that I'm on the other side of the
19 case, they know that I'm going to be very
20 serious, I'm going to advocate for my client in
21 a no-nonsense manner. But I'm also going to
22 want to have respect and to -- I will treat them
23 with respect as well.

24 SENATOR RANKIN: We heard earlier today a judge
25 unopposed who effectively measuring the

1 temperature and the heart rate in the room, and
2 effectively suggested, and in one case, he
3 literally told everybody to sit down as they
4 were about to start a proceeding and have a
5 conversation to cool the room.

6 MS. JACOBSON: Sure, I mean, every family court judge
7 probably has their own things that they do to
8 help lower the temperature in the courtroom.
9 Judges are -- they are supposed to encourage
10 settlement between parties. And I would do that
11 as well.

12 SENATOR RANKIN: Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Senator Walker?

14 SENATOR WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And good
15 afternoon to you, Ms. Jacobson.

16 MS. JACOBSON: Good afternoon.

17 SENATOR WALKER: I am pouring over the comments about
18 you and the ballot box survey and the lion share
19 of them are laudatory. But there is one comment
20 that jumped out at me, and this is beyond your
21 control. This comment is, you know, this person
22 says purely demographical. That's really, I
23 would say, a euphemism for diversity. You know,
24 in the current political zeitgeist or climate,
25 that word seems to be, you know, somewhat a --

1 considered pariah right now. And this person's
2 concern has to do with the fact that, I think in
3 Berkeley County, there are three slots. Two of
4 those three slots are currently -- and you can
5 correct me if I'm wrong on the number, but I'm
6 thinking -- I believe three slots in family
7 court.

8 MS. JACOBSON: That's right.

9 SENATOR WALKER: Two of the three slots are occupied
10 by women. This person says he has concerns
11 about a lack of diversity with respect to
12 gender, you know, for the family court bench,
13 you know, in Berkeley County. Now granted,
14 what's most important is merit. Right? And we
15 want judges that have the temperament, that have
16 the bona fides, that have the experience. But
17 I'm also one of those individuals who believes
18 that we should be pulling talent from
19 everywhere, from every community, whether it's
20 based on color, gender, etc. And so what say
21 you to the concern that has been expressed by
22 this individual regarding what appears to be a,
23 I guess, a lack of diversity, a paucity of
24 diversity with respect to gender on the family
25 court bench in Berkeley County?

1 MS. JACOBSON: Well, there are two family court judges
2 that are currently in Berkeley County. They are
3 both women. Before that, two men served in
4 those roles for 24 years. There was no
5 diversity prior to the two women that were
6 sitting on the bench. Then this new seat has
7 been created. I don't have any control over who
8 runs, of course. But I don't believe that my
9 gender would ever keep me from being fair or
10 making a decision based on the law and the
11 various lenses that are available to a family
12 court judge, civil procedure, evidence, statute
13 case law. But I understand that people would
14 like to see people that are like themselves when
15 they walk into a courtroom. I completely
16 understand that. And I encourage people to run
17 for different seats.

18 SENATOR WALKER: Thank you for your candid response.

19 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Other members of the Commission have
21 any questions? Ms. Jacobson, I do want to ask
22 you one thing. The writing samples that you
23 submitted, is there any particular significance
24 to those? Why did you choose these as your
25 writing samples?

1 MS. JACOBSON: Well, I thought the guardian ad litem
2 report was -- I don't know now many of those you
3 get on the JMSC, but it was a very complicated
4 case, very emotion driven. The parents had very
5 different views as to what was in the best
6 interest of the children that were subject to
7 the action. So I wanted to share that with the
8 JMSC. And the other order that -- or settlement
9 agreement that was submitted had to do with a
10 division of a multi-million dollar corporation.
11 And I just wanted to show the different types of
12 cases that I work on. For a variety, to show
13 you variety.

14 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Well, I think they're -- they're
15 well-written. I don't pretend that I've read
16 all of it. I've read a significant portion, and
17 I think they're well-written. All right.
18 Seeing no further questions, and Ms. Jacobson,
19 this will bring this portion of the screening
20 process to a close. I want to thank you for
21 offering your service on the bench. I do need
22 to take this opportunity though to remind you
23 that pursuant to the Commission's evaluative
24 criteria, the Commission expects candidates to
25 follow the letter as well as the spirit of the

1 law. And that we would view any violation or
2 appearance of impropriety very serious and
3 potentially deserving of heavy weight during our
4 screening deliberations. And on that note, as
5 you know, the record will remain open until the
6 formal release of the qualifications report.
7 And if the need were to arise, we would have the
8 ability to call you back for further discussion
9 about those sorts of things. Do you understand
10 all that?

11 MS. JACOBSON: I do.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Wonderful. Again, let me thank you
13 for making the time to be with us. Thank you
14 for offering for service, and we wish you well
15 and hope you enjoy the rest of your day.

16 MS. JACOBSON: Thank you. Thank you all.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you very much. And we will
18 proceed to the screening of our next candidate
19 when he or she is available or able to make it
20 into the room. The latter being the case.

21 (Off the Record)

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Good afternoon. We will
23 continue with our screening process. Before us,
24 we have Mr. LaMantia. Am I pronouncing that
25 correctly?

1 MR. LAMANTIA: Beautifully. Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Mr. Lamantia, is a
3 candidate for Seat 7 in the 9th Judicial Circuit
4 for the family court. Do I have that right?

5 MR. LAMANTIA: That's correct.

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would, please
7 sir, raise your right hand.

8 WHEREUPON:

9 ANTHONY LAMANTIA, being duly sworn and
10 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth
11 and nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: If you would, please, state your
13 full name for the record.

14 MR. LAMANTIA: Anthony Phillip Lamantia, III.

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Lamantia, there should be some
16 documents there in front of you. If you would,
17 please, take a minute to review those.

18 MR. LAMANTIA: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are those the personal data
20 questionnaire and the sworn statement that you
21 have submitted to the Commission?

22 MR. LAMANTIA: As well as an amended response. Yes,
23 sir.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. Are there any other updates
25 or amendments you need to make?

1 MR. LAMANTIA: No.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you have any objection to our
3 including those as a part of the record in this
4 matter?

5 MR. LAMANTIA: Not at all.

6 (EXHIBIT NO. 18 MARKED FOR
7 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (14
8 pages) PDQ)

9 (EXHIBIT NO. 19 MARKED FOR
10 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
11 Amendment)

12 (EXHIBIT NO. 20 MARKED FOR
13 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (5 pages)
14 Sworn Statement)

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Let me give staff just a moment to
16 do that. All right. The Judicial Merit
17 Selection Commission has thoroughly investigated
18 your qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry
19 has focused on the nine evaluative criteria, and
20 has included a ballot box survey, a thorough
21 study of the application materials, verification
22 of your compliance with state ethics laws, a
23 search of newspaper articles in which your name
24 appears, a study of any previous screenings, and
25 a check for economic conflicts of interest. We

1 have received no affidavits filed in opposition
2 to your election, and no witnesses are present
3 to testify. If you'd like to make a brief
4 opening statement, we'd be happy to hear from
5 you. Otherwise, I will turn to staff counsel
6 for questions.

7 MR. LAMANTIA: Sure. Thank you very much. Hello
8 everyone. My name is Anthony Lamantia. I am an
9 attorney in the Low Country, a domestic lawyer.
10 I've been practicing family law since 1997, so
11 over half my life I've been a domestic attorney.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Lamantia, I apologize for --

13 MR. LAMANTIA: Can you hear me?

14 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Yeah. If you wouldn't mind, we have
15 a diverse --

16 MR. LAMANTIA: Not at all.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: -- pool of applicant height. And
18 so if you could get it up to where the taller
19 applicant height setting. Wonderful.

20 MR. LAMANTIA: Is this better?

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Yes, sir. Much better. Thank you.

22 MR. LAMANTIA: Thank you. Should I start over?

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: No, we're good.

24 MR. LAMANTIA: Okay. Again, I've been practicing
25 family law since 1997, so almost 29 years. I

1 clerked for family court judge all those years
2 ago, and I have been in family law ever since.
3 I'm a single dad of four children. I live in
4 Charleston County. I've raised those children
5 largely on my own for the last 10 years. In
6 fact, on my own for the last 10 years. I'm
7 licensed in New York, New Jersey, and South
8 Carolina. I've lived in the Low Country for
9 over 20 years. And I've been doing this job for
10 a long, long time. I hope that I have the
11 requisite experience, etc., that would make me a
12 good candidate for this position. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you. I'm sorry. I didn't
14 mean to cut you off if you were --

15 MR. LAMANTIA: Not at all. No, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I kind of felt like we hit that
17 moment where you were arriving to a conclusion.
18 All right.

19 MR. LAMANTIA: Wrapping up. Yes, sir.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ms. Foster.

21 EXAMINATION

22 BY MS. FOSTER:

23 **Q. Mr. LaMantia, please state for the record the city**
24 **and circuit in which you reside.**

25 **A. I live in Charleston County. I live in the county.**

1 I don't live in Charleston city. The mailing address
2 is Charleston.

3 **Q. All right. And the circuit in which you reside?**

4 A. The 9th Circuit, 9th Judicial Circuit.

5 MS. FOSTER: Mr. Chairman, I note for the record that
6 based on the testimony contained in the
7 candidate's PDQ, which has been included in the
8 record with the candidate's consent, Mr.
9 LaMantia meets the statutory requirements for
10 this position regarding age, residence, and
11 years of practice.

12 **Q. Mr. LaMantia, why do you want to serve as a family**
13 **court judge and why do you feel that your legal and**
14 **professional experience qualify and will assist you**
15 **to be an effective judge? I know you touched on that**
16 **a bit, but if you want to elaborate.**

17 A. Thank you. A little bit. Again, I clerked for
18 family court judge 20 years ago -- excuse me 28 years
19 ago. And it was an extremely valuable opportunity to
20 serve as a full-time law clerk to family court judge.
21 I learned from my judge the -- the right way to do
22 things. There's really no other way to say it. To
23 serve the people of the community honorably with the
24 hard work and dedication that is required of the
25 position. And through him, I came to learn that a

1 judge who is well-versed in the law, who has
2 experienced, is a great asset to the community to
3 serve the community, and is really the pinnacle or
4 the apex of what any good lawyer can do is to serve
5 the public with their skills, their expertise, their
6 knowledge. And since working for my judge for an
7 entire year, it's all I've aspired to do is learn the
8 law, learn how to practice, learn how to practice
9 correctly so that ultimately I could also serve my
10 community, serve the people of this state with
11 humility and expertise.

12 **Q. Are there any areas of the law for which you would**
13 **need additional preparation in order to serve as a**
14 **family court judge, and how would you handle that**
15 **additional preparation?**

16 A. Well, I imagine that -- I mean, I've practiced in
17 every area, as far as I know, in family court over my
18 time. So I've handled DSS cases. I have handled,
19 obviously, divorces and dividing marital estates, and
20 custody and relocation cases and international cases.
21 I believe I've handled it all. Have I had a
22 Department of Juvenile Justice case in the last -- in
23 this year, I probably have not. But there was a time
24 where I was serving in Berkeley County where I was
25 being assigned cases all the time. So even though

1 it's been within a year at least since I've had a
2 case like that, I could certainly brush up on where
3 we are in the law, and I'd be happy to do that. I
4 feel like I have a pretty well-rounded base of
5 experience. But again, I'm -- I take my CLE's and
6 I'd be happy to study up if I need to.

7 **Q. Mr. LaMantia, please briefly describe your experience**
8 **in handling complex contested family court matters,**
9 **and specifically discuss your experience with the**
10 **financial aspects of family court work.**

11 A. Sure. Again, complex cases can range from child
12 custody cases or children with special needs cases.
13 I know you asked about financial issues in
14 particular, and I'll be happy to address that in a
15 moment. But again, I've run the gamut of cases over
16 the years of my experience, speaking about custody
17 where there is military cases, military relocation
18 cases, international cases where one of the parents
19 is from another country and they want the ability to
20 take the child not only out of the state but out of
21 the country. Relocate -- I have relocation cases as
22 we speak where parents unfortunately don't want to
23 move just as far as North Carolina but as far as
24 California, and how do you resolve those issues.
25 I've also handled many divorce cases in the Low

1 Country where there are multi-million dollar estates
2 that need to be -- marital estates that need to be
3 resolved. People with their own businesses. I have
4 a case right now with somebody that runs a concrete
5 company that's a multi-million dollar business, and
6 finding ways to resolve those cases, you know, the
7 cost effective way for everybody is important. But
8 certainly, I've relied on having experts, financial
9 experts, to assist where, you know, just what's
10 happening in the cases and valuing the businesses,
11 valuing the property is outside of what I would do
12 when, you know, the court requires an expert opinion
13 on these things.

14 **Q. Mr. LaMantia, the Commission received 86 ballot box**
15 **surveys regarding you with 27 additional comments.**
16 **The ballot box survey, for example, contain the**
17 **following positive comments: Anthony is experienced**
18 **and knowledgeable in family law. He is driven in his**
19 **practice. Another stated: Tony is my friend. In my**
20 **years knowing him, he is measured and unshakeable.**
21 **He would be an excellent judge. But 19 of those 27**
22 **written comments expressed concerns. Most of these**
23 **comments expressed concerns about your temperament**
24 **and demeanor, describing you as aggressive,**
25 **uncooperative, condescending, and difficult to work**

1 **with. What response would you offer to that concern?**

2 A. It's difficult to respond to anonymous, unverified
3 claims where there's nothing in particular that I'm
4 responding to. But I am a Christian, and I do
5 believe in following the Golden Rule. I always treat
6 people with respect, and I treat them in the way that
7 I believe that I should be treated. So I'm not one
8 who raises my voice to anybody. The person that you
9 see in front of you today is the person I am every
10 day. I am always professional. I honor our civility
11 oath that we lawyers have to take. And I look to be
12 a problem solver. So why somebody would say I'm
13 difficult, I'm the person who's always calling to try
14 to -- try to resolve cases amicably, try to find
15 creative ways to solve cases amicably. I am the guy
16 when there's lawyers in the hallway outside in the
17 courtroom, so I walk up to them and ask how their
18 families are, how their kids are, how was your
19 vacation. That's the lawyer that I am. So it was a
20 little surprising to hear that somebody would say
21 something like that to me.

22 **Q. Additionally, several of the comments expressed**
23 **concern with your reputation and professionalism,**
24 **noting instances where you were perceived as**
25 **unprepared and unresponsive to both attorneys and**

1 **clients. What response would you offer to those**
2 **concerns?**

3 A. Again, I'm a little at a loss why that would be said.
4 I am always prepared for my cases. And I can't even
5 fathom why that would ever be said, and I've never
6 been reprimanded by the Supreme Court or had a
7 grievance for showing up unprepared or anything along
8 those lines. I'm an AV rated attorney with
9 Martindale-Hubbell, which is a peer reviewed rating
10 of -- for having the highest -- not only ability, the
11 highest ethical standards. And again, that's a peer
12 review rating, not only by fellow attorneys but by
13 judges as well. That's not something that they just
14 hand out. I'm at a loss at why somebody would ever
15 say that I was unprepared or unprofessional. Again,
16 I try to be -- the person that is standing in front
17 of you today is the person I am every day when I'm --
18 and when I'm dealing with fellow attorneys.

19 **Q. Mr. LaMantia, your SLED report indicated that you**
20 **have been involved in two lawsuits. The first**
21 **lawsuit was filed in 2010 by Anesthesia Management**
22 **Solutions, LLC involving medical debt. Please**
23 **explain the nature and disposition of this lawsuit.**

24 A. Sure. I had surgery back in 2010. And there was a
25 billing error, and we resolved that very quickly when

1 I pointed out how Anesthesia Associates made a
2 mistake, and the case was dismissed. We resolved it
3 amicably. They straightened out their billing, and I
4 paid the bill.

5 **Q. The second lawsuit filed against you -- was filed**
6 **against you and your law firm in 2010 by Phillip M.**
7 **Hucks. Please explain the nature and disposition of**
8 **this suit.**

9 A. I believe that was filed against -- I had another
10 attorney that was working in the office. I wasn't
11 involved in that. But ultimately, the case was
12 dismissed. I don't even think that there was a
13 resolution other than the complaining party realized
14 that their case didn't have merit, and it was
15 dismissed. So we didn't go to court. It wasn't
16 settled. They just withdrew it.

17 MS. FOSTER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to request that we
18 now go into executive session to handle a
19 matter.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Representative Jordan moves that we
21 now go into executive session, seconded by
22 Senator Rankin. All in favor, signify by saying
23 aye.

24 THE BOARD: Ayes.

25 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All opposed, nay. The ayes have

1 it. We will now proceed into executive session,
2 and I would ask that all folks not authorized to
3 being here please step out.

4 (Executive session was held from 2:37 to 3:06)

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Ladies and gentlemen, we
6 are now back on the record. We are out of
7 executive session. For the record, while we
8 were in executive session discussing
9 confidential financial matters and others, no
10 decisions were made, and no votes were taken.
11 We will now resume with the screening of Mr.
12 LaMantia. Any questions from members of the
13 Commission? All right.

14 MS. FOSTER: Oh, well, yeah. I have the rest of my
15 script.

16 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Oh. I'm so sorry. Let me go back
17 then to Ms. Foster. Apologies.

18 MS. FOSTER: I would note that the Low Country
19 Citizens Committee found Mr. LaMantia qualified
20 in the evaluative criteria of constitutional
21 qualifications, physical health, mental
22 stability, and experience. The Committee found
23 him well qualified in the evaluative criteria of
24 ethical fitness, professional, academic ability,
25 character reputation, and judicial temperament.

1 The Committee stated in summary as a single
2 father of four children, he brings an important
3 perspective to the family court, very good
4 experience, presents well, committed. And then
5 noted, some Committee members received comments
6 of concern, but nothing verified. I would also
7 note that the South Carolina Bar found Mr.
8 LaMantia unqualified overall. The South
9 Carolina Bar found him qualified in the
10 evaluative criteria of constitutional
11 qualifications, physical health, mental
12 stability, professional and academic ability,
13 experience in judicial temperament. The
14 Committee found him unqualified in the
15 evaluative criteria of ethical fitness,
16 character, and reputation.

17 Continued by Ms. Foster:

18 **Q. Mr. LaMantia, do you have any response for being**
19 **found unqualified overall, and then if you could**
20 **address ethical fitness, character, and reputation.**

21 A. Certainly. Can I do both at the same time?

22 **Q. Yes.**

23 A. It was surprising to me. I ran for a seat in
24 Berkeley County two years ago where I was found
25 qualified by the bar. And I can tell everyone here,

1 if I'm not the same attorney, I'm probably a better
2 attorney than I was two years ago. I'm more
3 experienced than I was two years ago. I've not had
4 any reprimands or any other accusation against my
5 ethics or in any other way that I've had to defend.
6 You know, again, no letters of reprimand or anything
7 like that in over 15 years. So I have no good
8 explanation as to why things would have changed from
9 two years ago when I was found qualified. Truly, I
10 believe I'm a better attorney than I was then, so.

11 **Q. Some housekeeping issues. JMSC procedural Rule 17**
12 **includes a prohibition of any candidate from**
13 **attending or watching any portion of the live stream**
14 **or recordings of the public hearings in this cycle**
15 **until after all hearings are concluded. Have you**
16 **watched or listened to any of these hearings before**
17 **your appearance today?**

18 **A. I have not.**

19 **Q. Has any other person relayed any information about**
20 **any of the proceedings before this Commission to you?**

21 **A. Not at all.**

22 **Q. Mr. LaMantia, are you aware that as a judicial**
23 **candidate, you are bound by the Code of Judicial**
24 **conduct as found in Rule 501 of the South Carolina**
25 **Appellate Court rules?**

1 A. I am.

2 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
3 contacted any members of the Commission about your
4 candidacy?

5 A. Not in the least.

6 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including the
7 limitations on contacting members of the General
8 Assembly regarding your screening?

9 A. I am.

10 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
11 sought or received the pledge of any legislator
12 either prior to this date or pending the outcome of
13 your screening?

14 A. I have not.

15 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members
16 of the General Assembly on your behalf or are you
17 aware of anyone attempting to intervene in this
18 process on your behalf?

19 A. I have not.

20 Q. Have you reviewed and do you understand the
21 Commission's guidelines on pledging and South
22 Carolina Code Section 2-19-70(e)?

23 A. I have.

24 MS. FOSTER: I would just note for the record that
25 any concerns raised during the investigation

1 regarding the candidate were incorporated into
2 the questioning of the candidate today. And Mr.
3 Chairman, I have no further questions.

4 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you ma'am. Senator from
5 Horry.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.
7 LaMantia, good to see you again. We met two
8 years ago, I think, you mentioned earlier, I
9 believe. You last screened in 2023? Right?

10 MR. LAMANTIA: That's correct.

11 SENATOR RANKIN: And then you were here in 2012 or
12 2013?

13 MR. LAMANTIA: I believe it was 2012.

14 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay. And --

15 MR. LAMANTIA: But I never made it this far, so.

16 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay. Well, and so I want to ask
17 just a number of things. And number one, thank
18 you for your willingness to do this to put
19 yourself out there to, again, invite many
20 touches along the way by a citizens committee,
21 the bar, interviews there, the ballot box survey
22 responses. And so you were well familiar with
23 the touches along the way and how we as a
24 Commission under the law are charged to view
25 your candidacy. Right? You're very familiar

1 with this process.

2 MR. LAMANTIA: I'm familiar, yes.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: And again, this is your third time.

4 Right?

5 MR. LAMANTIA: I didn't make it this far the first
6 time. But yes, it's --

7 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay.

8 MR. LAMANTIA: I certainly did it two years ago.

9 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay.

10 MR. LAMANTIA: I was here two years ago.

11 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay. And so is it of consequence to
12 us should it be though before you were found
13 qualified, should it be of any concern for us
14 that the bar did not find you qualified?

15 MR. LAMANTIA: I don't have an explanation for that,
16 and I'd love to give you one. It's concerning
17 to me, certainly. So I would imagine that it
18 might be concerning to you. And again, the only
19 thing that I can tell you is that, again, I'm an
20 AV rated attorney with Martindale-Hubbell, which
21 is not a -- it's a peer reviewed rating. I have
22 not lost that rating. I have not been --

23 SENATOR RANKIN: You've had that how long? If I can
24 interrupt.

25 MR. LAMANTIA: I believe 12 years, but that would be

1 an estimate. I know at least 2015, so I can say
2 it's certainly for more than 10 years.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: Try to get back in towards that mic
4 if you will.

5 MR. LAMANTIA: Oh, I'm sorry. My fault.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: The --

7 MR. LAMANTIA: Did you hear me, sir.

8 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay. Yeah. But I don't know that
9 anybody else can. And there are tens of people
10 listening. Tens of people. So the question for
11 you, I will admit to you that it is of a concern
12 to me. I'm not with the bar. I don't
13 participate in terms of their interview process.
14 But that is where you go -- and tell us about
15 that. How does that work?

16 MR. LAMANTIA: Well, there is a -- you go to a
17 hearing room at the bar building on Park Street.
18 And there are eight people from around the state
19 who are there. Some of them I know that -- just
20 professionally. There were a few that I did not
21 know. And they go through, actually in less
22 detail, than the Senate Committee did. But not
23 only the people who said good things about you,
24 but also raised some of those questions. Some
25 of the questions that were brought up in

1 executive session did not come up at all at that
2 --

3 SENATOR RANKIN: And again, we're not talking about
4 that, unless --

5 MR. LAMANTIA: No, sir. No, no, no. I'm just saying
6 they didn't come up at the bar interview. But
7 again, why I would have been found qualified two
8 years ago and this time around with some of the
9 same people I was found unqualified, again, I've
10 not been confronted with anything that wasn't
11 anonymous or vague. And -- but I can tell this
12 committee that I've not been reprimanded,
13 disciplined, etc., by any bar in any state that
14 I'm licensed in. As I said, I'm probably a
15 better attorney than I was two years ago.

16 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay.

17 MR. LAMANTIA: I hope so anyway. That's my goal.

18 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. And that process, that
19 interview, took how long?

20 MR. LAMANTIA: I would say 45 minutes to an hour, if
21 I had to estimate.

22 SENATOR RANKIN: Healthy, fair, give and take
23 questions posed, opportunity to respond, expand?

24 MR. LAMANTIA: Yes, sir. I actually enjoyed it. It
25 was not a bad experience at all.

1 SENATOR RANKIN: Novocaine given or no?

2 MR. LAMANTIA: No novocaine.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay. All right. And in the
4 citizens committee --

5 MR. LAMANTIA: Yes, sir.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: -- that you were found qualified, and
7 note as I do as well, single father, yours with
8 the tragic loss of your wife, your successful
9 parenting of four children. God bless you. It
10 looks like, sounds like that you've done a
11 remarkable job. And so kudos to you.

12 MR. LAMANTIA: It's not --

13 SENATOR RANKIN: Which they note as well.

14 MR. LAMANTIA: It's not easy, but it's doable.

15 SENATOR RANKIN: Yeah. So they noted as well some
16 committee members received comments of concern,
17 but nothing verified. And in terms of that
18 process, how long was that interview with them?

19 MR. LAMANTIA: Less than 45 minutes, but I would say
20 more than a half hour. I mean, it was a fair
21 amount of time, but it wasn't as exhaustive as
22 this hearing, for example.

23 SENATOR RANKIN: This hearing today?

24 MR. LAMANTIA: Yes, sir.

25 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay. And do you need to take a

1 break? I'm not making light, but --

2 MR. LAMANTIA: Not at all. No, I'm -- no, I'm okay.

3 Thank you.

4 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay. And in terms of the questions
5 so far, I hope we're being fair with you.

6 MR. LAMANTIA: No complaints.

7 SENATOR RANKIN: Okay.

8 MR. LAMANTIA: Thank you, sir.

9 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. In terms of the ballot
10 box surveys. Again, I don't believe I was a
11 part of this in 2011 or '12. Senator Campson
12 may have been. I don't recall you being -- I do
13 recall you from before. And the -- I will say
14 to you that -- again, of concern to me are the
15 both number of responses and concerns raised in
16 these responses. And I look through other
17 family court judge candidates, either running
18 for the first time or for re-election. And in
19 terms of the total number of responses and the
20 percentages for each, and I'm talking probably
21 15 so judges. Without a doubt, you received the
22 highest number of negative comments by a
23 percentage basis of your total responses. And
24 effectively, almost 25 percent negative
25 comments. And my question to you, how should I

1 scale or score that? Should that be a concern
2 to me in viewing your ability to serve on the
3 bench in a way that endears you to both friend
4 and foe who all have the opportunity to write
5 good or bad about you? How should I score that?

6 MR. LAMANTIA: Well, I would hope that you would take
7 it into consideration with the positive things
8 that were said about me, such as that I have a
9 great demeanor and that I would have, in their
10 opinion, a good judicial temperament, that I am
11 hard-working, and that I am committed to serving
12 the public. Those things were read aloud
13 earlier. You know that I have been dedicated to
14 the practice of law and to the betterment of
15 society, because I'm standing before you telling
16 you that those are things that I am interested
17 in doing. That's why I'm here. Otherwise, I
18 would just be back at my office working today.

19 SENATOR RANKIN: And I'm interrupting. I don't mean
20 to. Without a doubt, you do have your applauds
21 and endorsers that say the very things that
22 you've said. But to the point of temperament,
23 perhaps the highest rating of unqualified of any
24 family court candidate or judge open for --
25 offering for re-election. The highest

1 unqualified in terms of reputation. And so
2 again, I don't want to sound like this is 75
3 percent bad and 25 percent good. It is in fact
4 the opposite. It is 75 good, I hope I've said
5 this correctly, 25 percent of concern. But that
6 25 percent is the outlier, without a doubt, of
7 your peers and the other candidates. And so I'm
8 curious again -- it could be a job being taken
9 out on you. There could be an organized group
10 that have said let's say things that aren't true
11 about this candidate. And I don't know you, I
12 don't practice in family law, so I apologize for
13 this line of questioning. But if you're elected
14 to the bench, if you're advanced here, what
15 would your attitude be as to what you would do
16 with your detractors?

17 MR. LAMANTIA: Well, happily I don't know who those
18 people are. And I'm making light. But again, I
19 think the world of Judge Wayne Creech. And I
20 hope everyone here got a chance to know who he
21 was and how he sat on the bench and handled
22 cases. But as I was saying earlier, when I
23 clerked for a family court judge, that person
24 was a model on how to handle the hard work
25 required of the job and how to handle it

1 honorably and responsibly for the community.
2 And I think Wayne Creech was the same way where
3 Judge Creech was the ultimate judge in my
4 opinion. He was always a friend to the
5 community and dedicated to serving the
6 community. He was a friend to the lawyers. He
7 was not there to embarrass anybody or be
8 punitive to anybody. He was there to follow the
9 law as written by this body, and to serve the
10 community with kindness and compassion while
11 sometimes making hard decisions. And that's
12 exactly the type of judge that I'm -- I'm
13 telling you under oath I would be if I were
14 elected. That I'm there to do the hard work, to
15 serve the community, serve the people of the
16 entire state, and to bring honor to the position
17 -- to bring honor to the position and not
18 disrepute or disrespect. It's not my nature to
19 disrespect other people, and I would never do
20 it. I've been in front of judges that I thought
21 were aggressive to not only litigates but
22 attorneys that I've -- I'm telling this body
23 right now, that's not who I would ever be. I am
24 not here to be punitive to anybody. I'm here to
25 do a job and do it well.

1 SENATOR RANKIN: So -- and again, I hear you. I'm
2 taking you at face value.

3 MR. LAMANTIA: Yes, sir.

4 SENATOR RANKIN: And I don't -- can't cross-examine
5 you, can't know without knowing who these folks
6 are that perhaps you will never know. But two
7 the point of that's not me, there are 25 percent
8 of the folks and the comments of the 81
9 responses -- Again, 25 percent all writing
10 negative comments -- excuse me, 86 total. And
11 so --

12 MR. LAMANTIA: Yes, sir.

13 SENATOR RANKIN: -- they say, one, perhaps they're all
14 of one person, but they can't be. They can't
15 game it. Mr. LaMantia, am I pronouncing it
16 correctly?

17 MR. LAMANTIA: LaMantia, but it's okay.

18 SENATOR RANKIN: LaMantia, forgive me, is known to be
19 unresponsive and difficult to deal with as an
20 attorney. He is arrogant, condescending to
21 female litigators. My experience with him was
22 many years ago, but I've not heard -- I've heard
23 he has not changed much. Does not have much
24 experience. Non-responsive. Does not enjoy
25 good reputation in the family court bar. The

1 last thing Charleston Berkeley Family Court bar
2 needs is more animosity. Three separate
3 inclusions. To the person who is either ganged
4 up or the three people who have taken the time
5 to share that who may be listening or reading
6 this transcript later, what do you say to them?

7 MR. LAMANTIA: Well, I don't know how anybody could
8 say I'm not experienced after literally being in
9 the trenches 28 years practicing family law in
10 all realms of family law and domestic
11 litigation. Being non-responsive, I'm a solo
12 practitioner. And I'm not making excuses, I'm
13 giving a potential explanation. You know, our -
14 - I'm sure you know very well, our world has
15 changed where, again, I've been practicing
16 nearly 30 years. We used to pick up the phone
17 with one another and call one another when we
18 had a problem in our case to solve. And we used
19 to say, hey Mary, you know, this is going on, my
20 client says this, can we work together and
21 collaborate about how to solve that problem.
22 That shifted when e-mail became more prevalent,
23 which wasn't so terribly prevalent when I first
24 started practicing. And you would get an e-
25 mail, sometimes a hot e-mail, but you would get

1 an e-mail laying out what's happening and please
2 respond. Unfortunately in our world today, now
3 instead of picking up the phone or even sending
4 an e-mail, somebody will just send you a text.
5 And there's no regard to, hey, I'm in a trial
6 this week, I'm not going to be able to get back
7 to you until after hours if I can do it at all
8 this day or that day. There's no regard that I
9 might be at a doctor's appointment with my
10 daughter who just had surgery, for example. So
11 I just think it's -- it's -- again, I'm on some
12 levels speculating. But people expect and are
13 insulted by the fact that if you don't respond
14 to their text message within three hours that
15 you're being unresponsive or you're being
16 difficult or -- and I'm sure we've all
17 experienced -- excuse me. We've all experienced
18 that on some level. I'm certainly not
19 paternalistic or anti-women. I would say at
20 least 50 percent, if not more, of my clients are
21 women. So -- and I think some of our best
22 attorneys are women. So why that would be
23 thrown out there is a mystery to me. I think
24 our women members of the bar are fantastic.
25 SENATOR RANKIN: Serious anger problems, aggressive

1 towards women. One of the worst temperaments of
2 --

3 MR. LAMANTIA: I've never been arrested for anything
4 along those lines. I've never been complained
5 of in any way where I've even raised my voice to
6 anybody or again violated the civility oath that
7 we lawyers have. Interestingly enough,
8 something that did come up at the -- at the bar
9 interview a few weeks ago. Somebody had said
10 something along those lines and said he's a
11 former Marine. I wish I could tell this
12 committee that I had served our country in such
13 a way, but I've never served in the armed forces
14 in my life. And it was laughed about at the --
15 the bar interview about why somebody would say
16 that I had been a former Marine. And I'm sure
17 if you -- if you have those comments, is in
18 there. Because again, I was told, I've not read
19 it but I was told flat out, that somebody
20 claimed I had an anger problem and I was a
21 former Marine. Where that would have come from,
22 I don't have a clue. But it gives you a taste
23 of where some of these comments come from. I
24 mean, completely not me. Like literally, I've
25 never served in the armed forces. So.

1 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Other members of the Commission have
2 any questions? All right. Mr. LaMantia, thank
3 you so much. That will conclude this portion of
4 the screening process. Pardon me. I do want to
5 take this opportunity though to remind you that
6 pursuant to the Commission's evaluative
7 criteria, the Commission expects candidates to
8 follow the spirit as well as the letter of our
9 ethics laws. And that we would view any
10 violation or appearance of impropriety as very
11 serious and potentially deserving of heavy
12 weight during screening deliberations. On that
13 note, and as you know, until the release of the
14 formal -- excuse me, the formal release of the
15 report of qualifications, we would have the
16 ability to call you back in the event that some
17 untoured event were to be alleged or come to our
18 attention. Again, don't anticipate that. But
19 you understand we would have that ability if
20 that were to arise.

21 MR. LAMANTIA: Understood.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. Again, thank you for offering
23 for service to the state of South Carolina.
24 Thank you for being here today. I wish you all
25 the best as you travel back home.

1 MR. LAMANTIA: Thank you, sir.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you.

3 MR. LAMANTIA: Thank you, everyone.

4 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. We will proceed then
5 with our next screening. All right. Good
6 afternoon. We will proceed now with screening
7 for the next seat, which is a family court 9th
8 Judicial Circuit Seat 7. And before us, we have
9 Ms. Kelly Pope-Black. Do I have all that
10 correct?

11 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes, sir.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would, please,
13 raise your right hand.

14 WHEREUPON:

15 KELLY POPE-BLACK, being duly sworn and
16 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth
17 and nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

18 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: If you would, please, state your
19 full name for the record.

20 MS. POPE-BLACK: It's Kelly -- can y'all hear me okay?
21 Kelly Pope-Black.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. I can hear you just
23 fine.

24 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

25 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: If you'll just be conscious of that.

1 We've had --

2 MS. POPE-BLACK: I'll step up close.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: -- a variety of heights in
4 candidates today, so we've had to adjust that as
5 the day has gone on.

6 MS. POPE-BLACK: I'll try not to get --

7 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: There should be some documents there
8 in front of you. If you would, please take a
9 moment to review those.

10 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes, sir.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are those the personal data
12 questionnaire and the sworn statement that you
13 have submitted to the Commission?

14 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes, sir.

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Are there any updates or changes
16 that need to be made?

17 MS. POPE-BLACK: No, sir.

18 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Do you have any
19 objection to our making those documents a part
20 of the record?

21 MS. POPE-BLACK: No, sir.

22 (EXHIBIT NO. 21 MARKED FOR
23 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (19
24 pages) PDQ)

25 (EXHIBIT NO. 22 MARKED FOR

1 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
2 Amendment)

3 (EXHIBIT NO. 23 MARKED FOR
4 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (9 pages)
5 Sworn Statement)

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Let me give staff just a moment to
7 do that. The Judicial Merit Selection
8 Commission has thoroughly investigated your
9 qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry has
10 focused on the nine evaluative criteria and has
11 included a thorough review of your application
12 materials, a ballot box survey, verification of
13 your compliance with state ethics laws, a search
14 of newspaper articles in which your name
15 appears, a study of any previous screenings, and
16 a check for economic conflicts of interest. We
17 have received no affidavits filed in opposition
18 to your election and no witnesses are present to
19 testify. Before recognizing staff counsel to
20 begin with some questions, I noticed this
21 gentleman has followed you into the room given
22 the activities abounding today on the State
23 House grounds. If you'd like to to introduce us
24 because he's a friend, you may do that. If he's
25 a danger, just wink twice and we will have him

1 record with the candidate's consent, that Ms.
2 Pope-Black meets the statutory requirements for
3 this position regarding age, residence, and
4 years of practice.

5 **Q. Ms. Pope-Black, why do you want to serve as a family**
6 **court judge, and why do you feel that your legal and**
7 **professional experience qualify and will assist you**
8 **to be an effective judge?**

9 A. As everyone knows, I was a family court judge once
10 before. But before I even went to law school, I
11 worked with abused children. I worked with sexually
12 abused, physically abused, mentally abused children.
13 So that has been a passion of mine in practicing and
14 on the bench. When I left the bench, came off the
15 bench, I started doing mediations full-time. And
16 that has been very rewarding, but there is -- there's
17 something missing. And it's the work that I did with
18 abused children. I think that's coming back, and
19 that's a passion of mine. And that's something that
20 I would still like to fulfill and work on. I also
21 like working with juveniles. Prior on the bench, I
22 had a juvenile drug court. I'd like to do that
23 again. I think it's very beneficial. I think it
24 helps our youth change paths. And so that is
25 something else that I would like to institute in

1 Berkeley County.

2 **Q. Ms. Pope-Black, are there any areas of the law for**
3 **which you would need additional preparation in order**
4 **to serve as a family court judge, and how would you**
5 **handle that additional preparation?**

6 A. I think I'm in a unique position, because I have sat
7 on the bench before. I've also worked at the
8 Solicitor's Office in juvenile matters. However, I
9 will always be of the belief that you can always
10 learn and you can always grow. So while I do have a
11 lot of experience -- I've been doing this almost 25
12 years. Some of that was spent on the bench. So
13 while I do think I do have a lot of experience in all
14 areas of the law, I will never say that there's not
15 room for me to grow, because if anything that this
16 has six and a half years has taught me, it's taught
17 me that you can grow. And so I will never stop
18 learning, and I will never stop growing.

19 **Q. Ms. Pope-Black, please briefly describe your**
20 **experience in handling complex contested family court**
21 **matters, and specifically discuss your experience**
22 **with the financial aspects of family court work.**

23 A. So obviously time before. I have experience handling
24 those cases, but I will tell you since I've been
25 mediating I have handled multiple financial, complex

1 financial, cases. Sometimes those cases take about
2 two days to mediate. So multi-million dollar marital
3 estates, complex cases where you have multiples -- I
4 had one that had, like, 43 LLCs in it. So multiple,
5 complex financial cases as of -- on the bench, but
6 also as a mediator. I've seen a lot as a mediator.

7 Q. Ms. Pope-Black, the Commission received 294 ballot
8 box surveys regarding you with 79 additional
9 comments. The ballot box surveys, for example,
10 contained the following positive comments: The
11 candidate is smart, fair, and cares about outcomes
12 for children. And an incredible mediator. She is
13 nuanced, understands complex legal issues, and
14 focuses on the best interest of children. Twenty-six
15 of the written comments expressed some concerns.
16 Several comments indicated an issue with poor
17 judicial temperament, citing issues with disrespect
18 or lack of empathy. What response would you offer to
19 these concerns?

20 A. I would say having the time now to reflect on my time
21 on the bench, mediating you have to be patient. You
22 have to hear from both sides. And now looking back
23 on things, I think -- and I've said this before. I
24 got busy doing the job and forgot to do my job. And
25 you're trying to work through dockets. And there

1 were times when people just wanted to be heard, and I
2 should have done that. I regret that people felt
3 that way about being in front of me in the courtroom.
4 I will say having time to reflect, I don't want
5 anyone to feel that way. Lots of times when people
6 walk into a court room, they just want to be heard.
7 So you need to take the time to do that. And not be
8 so caught up in getting through the docket and
9 getting -- trying to get things done. They just want
10 to be heard, and I've learned that in mediation.
11 Just need to sit back, be patient. I will say that
12 has been a -- mediating has been a wonderful time for
13 me to reflect on things how I should have done things
14 differently, and puts you on the other side of things
15 to realize how much better and different you can be,
16 and more effective that you can be.

17 **Q. The second concern raised in issue with residency**
18 **questioning your move to the Low Country. What**
19 **response would you offer to this concern regarding**
20 **your residency?**

21 A. So I started mediating about six and a half years
22 ago, probably about four years ago started doing a
23 lot of work in the Low Country. I mediate all over
24 the state. I travel all over. So in January of this
25 year, I was mediating so much in the lower part of

1 this state, in January of this year was when I got a
2 place on Daniel Island to have a place to stay when
3 I'm working there, because I truly am there pretty
4 much 50 percent of the time. I'm there all the time
5 there, all -- every month. So I got a place there to
6 stay there. And then that was in January of this
7 year, in May this year found out that this seat had
8 been funded. And so in June, I changed my residency
9 to Berkeley County when I decided to run for this
10 seat based upon where I live in Daniel Island. So
11 the residence has been changed, the voter
12 registration has been changed, because I feel like if
13 I'm going to do this and run for this seat, that I
14 needed to do it correctly had have the residency
15 changed, because I'm there all the time anyway, so.

16 **Q. I would note that the Low Country Citizens Committee**
17 **reported Ms. Pope-Black to be well-qualified as to**
18 **ethical fitness, professional and academic ability,**
19 **character, reputation, experience, and judicial**
20 **temperament, and qualified as to constitutional**
21 **qualifications, physical health, and mental**
22 **stability. The Committee stated in summary:**
23 **clarified past issues with attorney and mediation**
24 **practice has added tremendously to her temperament,**
25 **very good experience. I just had a few housekeeping**

1 issues.

2 A. Yes, ma'am.

3 Q. JMSC Procedural Rule 17 includes a prohibition of any
4 candidate from attending or watching any portion of
5 the live stream of the public hearings of this cycle
6 until after all hearings are concluded. Have you
7 watched or listened to any of these hearings before
8 your appearance today?

9 A. No, ma'am.

10 Q. Has any other person relayed information about any of
11 the proceedings before this Commission to you?

12 A. No, ma'am.

13 Q. Ms. Pope-Black, are you aware that as a judicial
14 candidate, you are bound by the Code of Judicial
15 Conduct as found in Rule 501 of the South Carolina
16 Appellate Court rules?

17 A. Yes, ma'am.

18 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
19 contacted any members of the Commission about your
20 candidacy?

21 A. No, ma'am.

22 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70 including the
23 limitations on contacting members of the General
24 Assembly regarding your screening?

25 A. Yes, ma'am.

1 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
2 sought or received the pledge of any legislator,
3 either prior to this date or pending the outcome of
4 your screening?

5 A. No, ma'am.

6 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members
7 of the General Assembly on your behalf or are you
8 aware of anyone attempting to intervene in this
9 process on your behalf?

10 A. No, ma'am.

11 Q. And have you reviewed and do you understand the
12 Commission's guidelines on pledging and South
13 Carolina Code section 2-19-70(e)?

14 A. Yes, ma'am.

15 MS. CRATER: I would just note for the record that
16 any concerns raised during the investigation
17 regarding the candidate were incorporated into
18 the questioning of the candidate today. Mr.
19 Chairman, I have no further questions.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. Members of the
21 Commission have questions? Senator Walker?

22 SENATOR WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good afternoon
23 to you, Ms. Pope-Black.

24 MS. POPE-BLACK: Good afternoon.

25 SENATOR WALKER: I am looking at the ballot box survey

1 and the comments. And the majority of the
2 comments are, I would say, laudatory. Some
3 folks -- many folks speak highly of you. And
4 then there are some comments that are not so
5 savory. And the unsavory comments, they go to
6 temperament. And I'm probably one of two people
7 on this Commission that have had the privilege
8 of once serving as a judge. The other colleague
9 on the Commission is Judge Strickland who is the
10 Master of Equity in Richland County, I served as
11 a municipal judge in summary court. And while
12 to many, that role may not seem to be demanding,
13 the reality is summary court dockets usually
14 have some of the biggest dockets in the state.
15 And a lot of that has to do with the fact that
16 summary courts are at the bottom of the totem
17 pole, if you will, when it comes to priority.
18 There are other courts that just take priority
19 over summary courts, and so cases get postponed
20 and what have you. But I say all that to say
21 that in doing the job myself once upon a time, I
22 never found myself in the position of losing my
23 cool, if you will, or losing patience with the
24 litigants before me. Frankly, I found it to be
25 an honor to serve as a judge. The position

1 usually pays pretty well. And I once heard an
2 attorney say, you know, the judge's role is to
3 put on that black robe, sit there, and watch the
4 parties try their case. Now, that's a bit
5 reductionist. There's more to being a judge
6 than just that, but you get the gist. And so I
7 am non-plussed when I hear about judges, you
8 know, who have a difficult time holding it
9 together in the courtroom. Granted you have to
10 make sure that there's order in the court, no
11 pun intended. You sort of run a tight ship,
12 make sure that you call the balls and strikes.
13 But litigants should never have reservations
14 about appearing in a judge's courtroom. Now you
15 say that you have learned quite a bit, you know,
16 from your, I would sense, you know, being off
17 the bench. So I guess my question for you is if
18 you have the privilege and honor of serving
19 again as a family court judge, what would you do
20 differently this time around?

21 MS. POPE-BLACK: One of the first things that comes to
22 mind is how I handle temporary hearings. And I
23 think this is where a lot of the complaints came
24 from. When I did temporary hearings, I did it
25 strictly by the rules. You submitted your

1 packets, I read your packets, I gave you your --
2 a decision. The attorneys didn't speak. I
3 think that was a mistake. That is something I
4 would definitely change and do differently.
5 Because people that walk in, whether you have an
6 attorney or not, people walk in, they want a
7 chance to be heard. And the way I was
8 conducting those hearings, that wasn't
9 happening. So having the mediations and -- and
10 I learned more about people when I'm mediating a
11 case now would if I tried their case for five
12 days. Because you're with them all day. You're
13 hearing them. And it just -- I sat back and
14 realized that they should be given an
15 opportunity, or the attorney that they hire
16 should be given an opportunity to speak. And
17 that is one thing I would definitely do
18 different is how I handle temporary hearings.
19 There's been a rule in -- change in Rule 21 that
20 is going to allow judges to read your temporary
21 packets before you come in for a temporary
22 hearing. And I think that's wonderful, because
23 then that gives the litigants time to speak,
24 gives them more time. So I think that's a
25 wonderful change. And that is one thing I would

1 absolutely do differently from the bench.

2 SENATOR WALKER: Yesterday, our colleague, Mr.

3 Protopapas, he mentioned about the suicide rate
4 among lawyers. And I didn't know that we had
5 the second highest suicide rate of all the, I
6 guess, white collar professions, if you will.
7 And I think we have judges, not saying all, but
8 I know I've seen it in my 20 years practicing,
9 who sometimes forget what it's like to be a
10 lawyer. It's stressful being an attorney. The
11 pressure to get a case prepared for court,
12 representing clients and, you know, their
13 quirks. And when you are -- when you're in
14 private practice, the stress of generating
15 revenue, trying to keep the lights on, trying to
16 pay staff. And of course they're worried about
17 doing a good job, trying to get the best outcome
18 for their client. And I think one of the last
19 things a lawyer should have to worry about when
20 they go into a courtroom is how they're going to
21 be treated by the person who is the ultimate
22 arbiter in a case where the stakes may be fairly
23 high, you know, for their client. So I'm glad
24 to hear that you've taken this time, you know,
25 to reflect, you've been contemplative, and in

1 the event you have another opportunity to serve,
2 I just -- I trust that you do exactly what you
3 just represented to this body.

4 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you.

5 SENATOR WALKER: Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Lambert?

7 MR. LAMBERT: Good afternoon.

8 MS. POPE-BLACK: Good afternoon.

9 MR. LAMBERT: I'd just like to reinforce that you
10 have said that you have learned a lot from
11 stepping away doing the mediations and what you
12 feel like you've learned. I do think there are
13 people out there coming from the ballot box that
14 have reinforced and seen the change in you. I
15 would like to share on with you to make you feel
16 good about what you're trying to do.

17 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you.

18 MR. LAMBERT: This person said, I've done numerous
19 mediations with her since she's left the bench,
20 and she seems more even-tempered, considerate,
21 and fair than she was when I appeared before her
22 as an attorney. She is the right person to get
23 Berkeley County in shape and back on track, and
24 I expect that she would be a completely
25 different judge than we saw weakness with. So

1 there are people out there working with you now
2 that feel that way.

3 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you for sharing that.

4 MR. STEGMAIER: Ma'am, good afternoon.

5 MS. POPE-BLACK: Good afternoon.

6 MR. STEGMAIER: I know that you had related -- and I'm
7 sorry if it's repetitive.

8 MS. POPE-BLACK: That's okay.

9 MR. STEGMAIER: But you have a home on Daniel Island.
10 Correct?

11 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes. Well, I rent a place there on
12 Daniel Island.

13 MR. STEGMAIER: Rent a place.

14 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes, sir. I do not own a home there.

15 MR. STEGMAIER: Okay. Where -- as far as -- and I saw
16 the financial declaration. With regard to your
17 real property, where do you own that real
18 property?

19 MS. POPE-BLACK: The real property is in Greenville
20 County. Well, part of it is Greenville, part of
21 it is Spartanburg County. It is across from
22 where I grew up. It's across from my parents.
23 So part of that is inherited land.

24 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am.

25 MS. POPE-BLACK: And then we purchased another 20

1 acres beside it to -- and my sister owns land
2 around it.

3 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am.

4 MS. POPE-BLACK: So -- sorry I'm doing a little thing.
5 But my parents live here, and so we've kind of
6 created a bubble --

7 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am.

8 MS. POPE-BLACK: -- around my parents. And so all of
9 that is family land. And -- and I'll continue
10 to have that property, because that's my
11 daughter's inheritance, so.

12 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am. And as far as any other
13 home, do you -- do you still have a home in
14 Spartanburg County?

15 MS. POPE-BLACK: No. Our house is in Greenville
16 County.

17 MR. STEGMAIER: Okay.

18 MS. POPE-BLACK: But part of the property around it,
19 some is in Spartanburg and some is in
20 Greenville, if that makes sense.

21 MR. STEGMAIER: It does.

22 MS. POPE-BLACK: It's 40 acres there, so.

23 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am. When you were on the
24 bench in the 7th Circuit, was that how you
25 established residency in Spartanburg County?

1 MS. POPE-BLACK: So I -- when I first went on to the -
2 - it was an at-large seat, so way back when when
3 they did all those at-large seats at one time,
4 there were a lot of them.

5 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am.

6 MS. POPE-BLACK: It was one of those. And so I lived
7 in Spartanburg County at that time. Then
8 inherited land from my father and built across
9 from my parents. And then over time, purchased
10 land from out there. Does that make sense?

11 MR. STEGMAIER: It does.

12 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

13 MR. STEGMAIER: And I appreciate that. I guess my
14 final question is as the rest of Berkeley County
15 understanding that you rent property on Daniel
16 Island, what other nexus do you have to Berkeley
17 County?

18 MS. POPE-BLACK: To Berkeley County?

19 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am.

20 MS. POPE-BLACK: I work there all the time.

21 MR. STEGMAIER: Okay.

22 MS. POPE-BLACK: There and in Charleston.

23 MR. STEGMAIER: Have you ever had an office there?

24 MS. POPE-BLACK: I don't have an office now.

25 MR. STEGMAIER: Well --

1 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yeah.

2 MR. STEGMAIER: The question is have you ever had an
3 office there?

4 MS. POPE-BLACK: No, sir. No, sir. So what I do is I
5 travel to the law firms to do my mediations, all
6 -- wherever I go throughout the state.

7 MR. STEGMAIER: And do you have any people there? Any
8 relations in Berkeley County?

9 MS. POPE-BLACK: Do I have any relatives there?

10 MR. STEGMAIER: Yes, ma'am.

11 MS. POPE-BLACK: No, sir.

12 MR. STEGMAIER: Thank you.

13 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Representative Jordan?

15 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Welcome, Ms. Pope-Black.

17 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you.

18 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: I want to go back and first
19 acknowledge, you know, I think you've done a
20 good job talking about how you've learned. But
21 I want to kind of hear a little bit more about
22 this -- the revelation, so to speak. Did it --
23 was that over a period of time? Was that, you
24 know, when you walked away from the unqualified
25 situation previously? I mean, what was that

1 like to digest that? Was that an immediate
2 thing or over time thing or how did that go
3 through?

4 MS. POPE-BLACK: No. It was an immediate. I'll be
5 honest with you, when it first happened, I was
6 upset. I was defensive. I was scared as to
7 what my future held in the legal world. When
8 that happened, my daughter was in sixth grade,
9 and I went to her to tell her, you know, what
10 had happened. And she sat there for a minute,
11 and the first thing out of her mouth was does
12 that mean that you'll get to come to my things
13 at school now. And that hit me, because I
14 didn't realize how much I had missed. I didn't
15 miss another thing that she did at school. I
16 had that time to reflect on -- I started doing
17 the mediations. And no, it wasn't like an
18 immediate, hey, they very next day. I'm doing
19 mediations, and it's like within that first
20 year, I'm like, I was really missing things.
21 Because it's true, you get on the bench,
22 sometimes you can forget what it's like to
23 practice. That happens. And I've been given
24 that gift to step back. And at the time when it
25 initially happened, did I see it as a gift? No.

1 Do I see it now as a gift? Absolutely. Even if
2 I don't go back on the bench, I'm a better
3 person for what happened to me before. I'm a
4 better attorney for what happened to me before.
5 And I think it's helped me be a better mediator
6 and help people try to resolve issues
7 themselves. I just think it's made me a better
8 person overall. I learned to enjoy life, find
9 something outside of the law. Which I think
10 that helps with the stress. I didn't really
11 have that before, but I found it. I found
12 something for me to do. And I take the time to
13 do that. And since these past six years, I've
14 spoken to the family court judges. I've spoken
15 to the bar and the family court section. And
16 I've told all of them, please find something to
17 do outside of the law. Please find something
18 for yourself outside of being a judge or
19 practicing. Because you've got to keep --
20 you've got to keep your sanity and mental health
21 through it all. And over time, I have learned
22 that. And I think not only made me a better
23 person legally, as that as an occupation, but I
24 think it's made me a better person overall. I
25 hope that answered your question. That was a

1 long answer too.

2 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: It does. And that's fine.

3 And that's why we have these -- the engagement
4 opportunity to kind of walk through some of
5 these tough issues.

6 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yeah.

7 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: You know, so as I look through
8 the comments that I think some of them you've
9 already been made aware of, and I looked through
10 and I see number one -- well, let me back up so
11 you understand. I look at it as this is
12 anonymous. But when I do see a trend, it is a
13 concern. So it's sort of a balancing test. Now
14 sometimes we see them and there's just --
15 there's one negative and a ton of them.

16 MS. POPE-BLACK: Right.

17 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: And then there's sometimes
18 they are a little bit of a skewed situation.
19 But in yours, it -- you know, it seems like
20 they're going back in time and giving you a
21 review, not necessarily with the benefit of
22 understanding what you -- what's transpired in
23 your life. But at the same time, I think it's
24 incumbent upon us to go back and understand what
25 was and what is. And, I mean, I will say this

1 and, you know, not trying to -- when I see one
2 that talks about a personal firearm, you heard
3 that by chance?

4 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes. We addressed that. And, no.

5 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Just that never happened?

6 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yeah, just -- I think the comment was
7 that I slammed a firearm on the bench. No. I
8 never slammed a firearm on the bench.

9 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Again, you've heard that
10 obviously prior --

11 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes. When I met with my screening
12 attorney, it was brought up.

13 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Is that something you had
14 heard before that even, or is that like an
15 alleging kind of thing that just never happened?

16 MS. POPE-BLACK: It's kind of, like, alleging of there
17 was also an issue that I got angry with an
18 attorney for wearing clothes -- open-toed shoes
19 in court. That came through last time. And
20 that never happened either. So --

21 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: So totally --

22 MS. POPE-BLACK: No. I haven't slammed a firearm on
23 the bench.

24 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Let me totally change gears on
25 you and go back to something Mr. Stegmaier was

1 asking about. Does geography matter this day in
2 age?

3 MS. POPE-BLACK: Does geography matter? I would say
4 in my position and experience that I've had
5 mediating, I would say no because I can -- I
6 mediate everywhere in the state. So from that
7 standpoint, the same issues that you have in one
8 county, you're going to have those in another
9 county as well. I mean, it's also -- you know,
10 you have judges that travel throughout the
11 state. As far as do I think -- and I what I
12 think you're doing is does it matter as far as
13 the residency goes in running for that position.
14 So yes. I think in that aspect it does, and
15 that's why I changed my residency, and that's
16 why I changed my voter registration, because I
17 wanted the 9th circuit to know that I was
18 committed to doing it and doing it the right
19 way. And so that's why I personally did that.

20 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: I mean, let me ask you a
21 question. I'm reminded of another person we
22 screened. I think that's their second time.
23 They were here a year or two ago. They were in
24 the process, had moved to an area, were running,
25 run is successful. One of the things we asked

1 him back then was what happens if it doesn't
2 work out, are you going to move away and go to
3 the next stop. And here we are a year or two
4 later, and that individual stayed and cemented
5 their life, and they're running again unopposed.
6 If this doesn't work out, is home home or are
7 you upstate bound or --

8 MS. POPE-BLACK: No. I'm -- I had a place on Daniel
9 Island in January, before I even knew this seat
10 existed. So no, that's not going to change.
11 Our daughter is now a freshman in college. So
12 we have flexibility, and it's nice. But yeah,
13 I've been there since January. Before this.

14 REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Stavrinakis?

16 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Judge, welcome.

17 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you.

18 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: I appreciate your
19 previous service and your, you know, passion for
20 being a judge and wanting to be a judge. I have
21 to admit though, I find myself troubled on
22 multiple fronts here. I noticed when you filed
23 your SCI in August that you listed not a
24 Charleston or Berkeley address.

25 MS. POPE-BLACK: Uh-huh.

1 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Explain that to me.

2 MS. POPE-BLACK: You're talking about the P.O. box?

3 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Yeah.

4 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yeah. That post office box is -- I
5 mean, that post office is about that big. My
6 mother has a post office box there, and I will
7 keep that post office box no matter --

8 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: That's not the issue.

9 The issue is --

10 MS. POPE-BLACK: No.

11 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- it's a pretty
12 important filing -- this is in my mind. It's a
13 pretty important filing, I would think that you
14 would want to provide an address where you were
15 most likely to be able to be contacted in
16 response to that filing. Or since it's a public
17 filing, if anybody were looking at it, you would
18 want to provide an address that accurately
19 reflected your actual residence. And I would
20 assume, I don't know, would you have any other
21 reason to file an SCI rather than being a
22 candidate for the bench?

23 MS. POPE-BLACK: No.

24 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: So again, a third ground
25 that causes me to pause -- and again, I say this

1 not because that might be statutorily
2 disqualifying, but you know, I'm a 9th Circuit
3 lawyer, a 9th Circuit resident, a 9th Circuit
4 legislator. I have a responsibility to the 9th
5 Judicial Circuit, excuse me, on multiple levels.
6 And anyway, I don't want to pontificate. I do
7 want to give you a chance to address it. But it
8 did -- did cause me some concern, especially
9 since you were a judge up there. You lived up
10 there. Sounds like you grew up up there.
11 Sounds like your family lives there.

12 MS. POPE-BLACK: They do.

13 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Sounds like you still own
14 property up there, and you don't own any in the
15 9th Circuit. So help me.

16 MS. POPE-BLACK: So there is paperwork that when I did
17 list an address, I did list my Daniel Island
18 address. The mailing address still is the post
19 office box, that's what's on the AIS with the
20 bar system as well. So I -- and I don't know
21 exactly which form is which, to be quite honest
22 with you, but I did list the Daniel Island
23 address. But I do understand your concerns.
24 The one -- the thing I can just say to you is
25 that yes, I am committed to the area. I work

1 there a lot. I'm there a lot. Do I still work
2 in the Upstate? Yes. Do I still work in
3 Lexington, Columbia? Yes. So I do work all
4 over the state. I do work a lot in Berkeley and
5 Charleston. I do understand your concerns and
6 respect your concerns. I would just hope that
7 people would know that I would want to do my
8 best for that area.

9 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: I mean, you know, I
10 understand that you would want to do your best
11 for the area. But this is a resident seat. And
12 I want a resident of the 9th Judicial Circuit,
13 quite honestly --

14 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

15 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- in that seat. I'm
16 just being candid with you. Even your response
17 to staff's question I found -- I don't know. If
18 somebody asked me, you moved -- asked me a
19 question about my history of residences --

20 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

21 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- I would just say if I
22 move somewhere at a certain time, I would just
23 say I moved there a certain time. I wouldn't
24 feel the need to go into an explanation about
25 all the different work I do.

1 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

2 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: So, you know, I just -- I
3 don't feel satisfied on that front. I'm just
4 going to be honest with you.

5 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

6 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: The -- you know,
7 obviously the other issue is -- is temperament.
8 And I hear -- you know, I -- normally, I'm torn
9 between trying to, you know -- look, we're all
10 human. And trying to, you know, extend
11 understanding and grace to folks who we all can
12 learn and improve everyday and should strive to.
13 We don't necessarily have to have some massive
14 event in our lives, which I'm sure, you know,
15 losing your position on the bench, you know,
16 might have been. But I think sometimes it helps
17 to, you know, turn the light on or whatever, you
18 know, in your head for what. Have you done
19 anything though, because the way I look at this
20 is you probably -- I'm certain you didn't go to
21 work thinking you wanted to be a jerk to people.
22 Like stressors. It's a tough job. I mean, I
23 really tough job. I tip my hat to family court
24 lawyers, family court judges. I stay out of
25 there, I'm just going to be honest with you. I

1 just think it's a really, really tough
2 environment. But I imagine, hope for sure, that
3 it was the stress of the job that brought out
4 whatever these problematic episodes were. And I
5 worry that it takes more than just, you know,
6 some self-reflection. I'm just being honest
7 with you. When stress happens, people react in
8 certain ways. And if their natural reactions
9 are not good ones, then they need some help in
10 learning new responses to those situations. I'm
11 not trying to get into your personal business,
12 but. Is there anything like that you've done?
13 Because so far what I've heard is, I've done a
14 lot of mediation and I've, you know, done some
15 reflection, and I've -- I look at things
16 differently now. And that's great, but I'm just
17 wondering, because anticipating if you were a
18 judge again, surely those stressful situations
19 will arise again. And I would imagine the
20 pressure is different as a mediator versus as a
21 family court judge. I would imagine it's very
22 different.

23 MS. POPE-BLACK: It is different. It is. And I do
24 want to say -- you mentioned episodes. And the
25 understanding I had is kind of the way that I

1 ran the courtroom. Not outburst, episode
2 outburst. And, like I've said, I've not seen
3 everything in the ballot box. But I will say
4 that I can tell you that the courtroom would be
5 ran differently. There's opportunities to run
6 it differently. I realize not letting people,
7 like I said before, not speak on the temporary
8 hearings. And that is a huge part of what
9 family court judges do are hear temporary
10 hearings. And sometimes you've got multiple
11 ones a day. So I know what you're asking, if --
12 I have I gone to any form of counseling or
13 anything like that? No, sir. I haven't. I
14 don't know if that's what you were asking, but -
15 -

16 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Kind of. I mean, it
17 could be anything. I mean, I just -- but
18 anyway, thank you for your response and your
19 candor. But you know -- and again, I think
20 someone said this earlier, you have plenty of
21 positive. Right? But we have to ask about some
22 of these other things. And just so you know, I
23 haven't read that I didn't get a chance to be
24 heard. Some of what I've read is very different
25 than that.

1 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

2 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Things like arrogance,
3 lack of empathy, disrespect, a few other things.
4 Those strike me more as, you know, the kind of
5 thing that I -- maybe I characterized it
6 unfairly. If I did, I apologize. When I said -
7 - what did I say, episode? I don't know. I
8 wasn't trying to -- trying to imply that you --
9 you transform into a monster or anything. And I
10 apologize if I created that impression. But
11 reactions is what I'm getting at. They seem to
12 be -- and they seem to be -- at least from the
13 folks -- a lot of the folks that commented,
14 troubling reactions. And I would also note that
15 there are at least a couple in here that note
16 experience with you as a mediator and do not
17 believe that you have changed. That also causes
18 me some pause. Can you respond to that? I mean
19 --

20 MS. POPE-BLACK: The only thing is that I'm sorry if
21 those couple of people had not had a good
22 experience with me on the bench or as a
23 mediator. I don't -- obviously, I don't want
24 people to have that experience with me. But all
25 I can tell you is how I personally feel looking

1 back on things and realizing, hey, I can kind of
2 see that. I can kind of see where they would
3 say that. Having done the work that I've been
4 doing and doing the mediation work, I can't
5 answer to them specifically. I hate that they
6 had that experience. I can just tell you how --

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Do you acknowledge that
8 these experiences these people are reflecting in
9 these comments are real, or are you saying as I
10 heard you say a second ago, you're sorry they
11 feel that way? Because that makes a difference
12 to me. Another one said you were temperamental,
13 vindictive, and hold grudges. Like, that's --
14 those are very real --

15 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes.

16 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- descriptions. They're
17 not -- I didn't like my ruling, or I didn't get
18 heard on my temporary hearing request. You
19 know, I mean, that's kind of what I'm trying to
20 --

21 MS. POPE-BLACK: I hate they had that experience with
22 me. I mean, I would say I obviously did
23 something for them to have that experience. And
24 I hate that they had that. That's not how I
25 want to be as a mediator, as a judge, or as a

1 person in life. That is not how I want to be.
2 I can just explain to you how I feel -- how I
3 have changed over time. And looking back --
4 when I first came off the defensive person about
5 what happened is not the person that you have
6 today. And I know that you don't know me. So
7 you have to listen to what I'm saying, and take
8 it however you take it. But I was very
9 defensive about what happened. I was upset.
10 And then over time, I have been able to reflect
11 and say I can see how they probably got that. I
12 can see how they probably had that experience.
13 And I hate that they did that. Because like I
14 said, overall, I just don't want to be known as
15 a person like that. Personally or
16 professionally. So while I have had this time
17 to reflect, I would like to say given the
18 opportunity that I can show that.

19 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Well, thank you for that.

20 And let me just say this to you. Regardless of
21 what any of this says, don't think that that
22 defines you. You told a wonderful story about
23 your daughter a minute ago, and all of us have
24 these jobs to do. And sometimes, they are
25 difficult and sometimes we do a better job than

1 others. I'm the same as anybody else. But
2 don't think that defines you as a person. I
3 mean, you have a, I'm sure, many wonderful
4 qualities and people who love you, and that
5 matters more than anything else, right, in the
6 world, so --

7 MS. POPE-BLACK: That's exactly right.

8 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: So please don't let that
9 define you regardless of what this says or how
10 it turns out or anything like that.

11 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you.

12 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Thanks.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Ms. Pope-Black, I wasn't
14 a participant in the earlier screening. And let
15 me just say, let me try and set out the things
16 that I see here and I'm hearing here. And then
17 hopefully, you can help me understand where to
18 place them, because I have found in the time
19 that I've been doing this that it's best,
20 perhaps, to take a step back and try and figure
21 out how the pieces fit together. And what I
22 think I've heard you say, and I'm paraphrasing
23 here, is that you have recognized in the time
24 since you've left the bench that some of the
25 things that you had done had caused feelings,

1 frustrations, that you regretted, or that you
2 had looked back and identified that, perhaps,
3 that there had been cause for some of those
4 complaints that were the predicate for
5 ultimately finding you unqualified. Do I have
6 that much right?

7 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes, sir.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And I thought I heard you say that
9 you sort of arrived at that point of reflection
10 or inflection through reflection very quickly
11 after leaving. And that is grown, developed,
12 solidified, hardened, become more clear in the
13 time since because of your experiences as a
14 mediator. And the inherent look back that kind
15 of comes after a seminal moment in one's career.

16 MS. POPE-BLACK: Right.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do I have that part right still?

18 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. I will say that what I've
20 heard you describe here and your reactions to
21 all the things. That all makes sense to me.
22 And if I'm being completely honest with you, it
23 also makes sense given the incentives that exist
24 for the application that you have. Right? Like
25 -- a candidate should say those sorts of things.

1 It strikes me of the times that folks who don't
2 say those things that would give reason for this
3 Commission to ultimately arrive at a decision
4 that they got it we should be more accommodating
5 or we -- or forgiveness is not the right word,
6 but that the Commission should appreciate the
7 growth that has happened and feel assured that
8 there is minimized or a diminished expectation
9 that that would happen in the future. Sorry,
10 that's a wordy way of trying to get to the point
11 of -- I think you're saying the things, but I'm
12 trying to understand how that reflection happens
13 and whether or not you stand by the comments
14 that you had made immediately after you were
15 found unqualified as I see reported in Go
16 Upstate, which is not a newspaper I subscribe
17 to. And let me be first to say as an aside, I
18 recognize that reporting is a perilous business.
19 And relying on reports is even more perilous
20 unless there are dedicated journalists who are
21 there throughout an entire Commission screening
22 in the room, who would never fail to report
23 things accurately.

24 SENATOR RANKIN: Or not texting while --

25 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Or not texting while doing this.

1 But that reports can also make mistakes for a
2 myriad of reasons. But nonetheless, the
3 headline, which was probably written by someone
4 who has never set foot in this building, said
5 Judge implies Commission blocked her election
6 because of gender. The article goes on to quote
7 from -- I take it as a written statement that
8 you sent out that said, quote, "I do not run my
9 courtroom any differently than a lot of my male
10 colleagues." Close quote. She wrote, quote,
11 "It appears there are members of the legal and
12 political community as well as society who have
13 a problem with it." There was another quote,
14 which I didn't mark on this hard copy, that said
15 in effect, didn't regret -- I'm paraphrasing now
16 as I'm trying to talk and read at the same time.
17 You run your court -- you would run your
18 courtroom the same way. And perhaps I'm being
19 unfair by not giving you the exact quote there.
20 So give me one second. I may be mixing our --
21 so let me just stay with the first quote.

22 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: It says, "I don't run my courtroom
24 any differently than my male colleagues, peers,
25 or members of the legal and political community

1 as well as society who have a problem with it."
2 That, as I understand it, is not an implication,
3 an outright accusation, that the basis for the
4 decision was based on gender and not conduct
5 that you now acknowledge was the cause for those
6 complaints.

7 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yeah.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Did you mean it now or did you mean
9 it then?

10 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yeah, and I said in the very
11 beginning when I came in today that when that
12 happened, I was upset. I was scared as to what
13 the future held. But that I was upset and I was
14 defensive. And I was. I'm not -- and I know
15 we're staying with the first quote, but I will
16 tell you this. The one thing that I will do the
17 same is I think everyone should be treated
18 fairly when they walk in the courtroom no matter
19 your socioeconomic standing, your race, your
20 political stance. When you walk through those
21 doors, you should be treated fairly and
22 everybody should be treated the same. I still
23 do believe in that. When that article -- yes, I
24 was upset. I was defensive. Absolutely. Was
25 it -- was it right, no. Do I feel the same

1 today? No.

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And maybe I should make clear that
3 my concern is not -- I don't have any particular
4 interest in trying to defend a Commission that I
5 wasn't a part of. I didn't create the JMSC.
6 I've got no pride of authorship. That sort of
7 accusation is inconsistent with my experiences
8 here. But particularly as a legislative member
9 of the Commission, you know I exist in a
10 political world where I see regularly
11 disingenuous attacks from people who should know
12 better about the process. And those attacks are
13 advanced for their own narrow political
14 ambitions. And that may be their prerogative.
15 I think it ultimately dis-serves the public. I
16 don't think that's what's on offer in this
17 instance. I'm simply trying to arrive at an
18 understanding of the sincerity of reflection
19 that you've offered. And I think your
20 explanation here is helpful in that regard. I
21 certainly know what it's like to feel
22 disappointed, and -- you know, I don't do --
23 processing my anger as you did here, I'll be
24 quite candid with you. I would have said many
25 more bad words. So I commend you for that

1 professionalism. Here was what I was referring
2 to. Thank you, dutiful helper, Counselor
3 Extraordinaire. In her statement, Pope-Black
4 said she stands by her conduct on the bench. So
5 that was not a direct quote. That was a
6 summation from --

7 MS. POPE-BLACK: Oh, okay.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: -- the erstwhile reporter, who I
9 don't believe is with that newspaper anymore.
10 So again, I offer that without judgement, but
11 I'm trying to put together the pieces to arrive
12 at the decisions that we're charged to arrive
13 at.

14 MS. POPE-BLACK: I understand. And was -- was I
15 taking accountability then? No. Am I taking
16 accountability now having had the time? Yes.
17 Yes. If I didn't think that I could do a
18 different and better job and be an asset and a
19 benefit to the bench having had the benefit of
20 time to step off and see how I should be better
21 and do better, I wouldn't be back before you
22 today.

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, ma'am. I appreciate
24 that. Are there any other questions? I don't
25 see any from any other Commissioners. This is

1 generally the part of the program where I try
2 and recite some of the positive attributes that
3 are shared through the ballot box. And I don't
4 see any reason not to do that here. The, you
5 know, not to diminish the conversation that we
6 had, because I think it is important. And it's
7 -- yours is a different kind of case in a lot of
8 ways, as I think you would acknowledge. But I
9 would just point out that there are positive
10 comments that I think you should be proud of.
11 Some folks are recognized, you know, the talents
12 that you have, your dedication to purpose. And
13 I think that's something that ought not be lost
14 in the broader conversation about the issues
15 before us. So I don't know if that matters at
16 all, but I think that's not nothing at least.
17 Ms. Pope-Black, that will conclude this portion
18 of our screening process.

19 MS. POPE-BLACK: Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I do need to take this opportunity
21 to remind you that pursuant to the Commission's
22 evaluative criteria, the Commission expects
23 candidates to follow the letter as well as the
24 spirit of our ethics laws, and we will view any
25 violations or appearances of impropriety as very

1 serious and potentially deserving of heavyweight
2 in our screening deliberations. And so on that
3 note, as you know, if -- as the record will
4 remain open until the formal release of the
5 qualifications report if there were an event or
6 reason to call you back, we could do that to
7 have more dialogue about whatever that may be,
8 again should that arise. So you understand all
9 of that?

10 MS. POPE-BLACK: Yes, sir.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Thank you for your
12 service to the state of South Carolina. Thank
13 you for offering judicial service. I certainly
14 wish you well and hope you and Mr. Black travel
15 safely back home safe today. Thank you.

16 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you for being here.

18 MS. POPE-BLACK: Thank you very much. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Yes, ma'am. Let's stand at ease for
20 about 10 minutes or so so we can get reset for
21 our last hearing.

22 (Off the Record)

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Let's go back on the record as we
24 continue with screenings today. The next
25 applicant that we have is Judge Tarita Dunbar.

1 And this application is for Seat 5 in the 13th
2 Judicial Circuit for the family court. And
3 Judge Dunbar, if you would come to the -- the
4 podium there. And if you would help bring the
5 microphone down. Perfect. Judge Dunbar, did I
6 have all of that right about the application
7 position or the position being applied for?

8 MS. DUNBAR: Yes, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. If you would, please
10 raise your right hand.

11 WHEREUPON:

12 TARITA DUNBAR, being duly sworn and
13 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth
14 and nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

15 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And if you would, please state your
16 full name for the record.

17 MS. DUNBAR: Tarita Andrea, A-N-D-R-E-A, Dunbar.

18 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Judge Dunbar, there should be some
19 documents in front of you. If you would take a
20 moment to review those.

21 MS. DUNBAR: Okay. I see one amendment I think I need
22 to make on number 28, on my personal data
23 questionnaire.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay.

25 MS. DUNBAR: Is this an appropriate time to make that

1 request?

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: The amendment, is that a prepared
3 amendment that you have, or you need to --

4 MS. DUNBAR: Well, I just -- I forgot to state -- on
5 the question, it says list all the courts in
6 which you've been admitted to practice, and give
7 the dates and I didn't give the date.

8 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. We can accommodate that.

9 MS. DUNBAR: Okay.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: But otherwise, with that exception
11 being noted, are there any other updates or
12 changes you need to make to that?

13 MS. DUNBAR: No, sir.

14 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. So we'll make an allowance to
15 write that in.

16 MS. DUNBAR: Okay.

17 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And with that being said, do you
18 have any objection to our entering in that
19 document into the record?

20 MS. DUNBAR: No, sir.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. Let me give staff just a
22 moment to do that.

23 MS. DUNBAR: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And again, note for the record that
25 we will adjust the portions that you've just

1 noted with respect to admission dates.

2 MS. DUNBAR: Okay. Thank you.

3 (EXHIBIT NO. 24 MARKED FOR
4 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (12
5 pages) PDQ)

6 (EXHIBIT NO. 25 MARKED FOR
7 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (5 pages)
8 Sworn Statement)

9 (EXHIBIT NO. 26 MARKED FOR
10 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (111
11 pages) Ruzicka Complaint)

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. The Judicial Merit Selection
13 Commission has thoroughly investigated your
14 qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry has
15 focused on the nine evaluative criteria, and has
16 included a thorough study of your application
17 materials, a ballot box survey, verification of
18 your compliance with state ethics laws, a search
19 of newspaper articles in which your name
20 appears, a study of any previous screenings, and
21 a check for economic conflicts of interest. We
22 have received one affidavit filed in opposition
23 to your election and one witness is present to
24 testify. So at this point, I'm going to swear
25 in the witness. I'll ask you to take a seat,

1 Judge, anywhere you like. And at this point,
2 I'll ask the witness -- sir, if you would,
3 please come to the microphone there. Candidly,
4 I'm not entirely sure how to pronounce your last
5 name. And rather than embarrass you -- I'm sure
6 this is not the first moment in your life that
7 someone has had some trepidation about
8 pronouncing it.

9 MR. RUZICKA: Ruzicka.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ruzicka?

11 MR. RUZICKA: Yeah.

12 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay. Mr. Ruzicka, if you would,
13 please raise your right hand.

14 WHEREUPON:

15 JUSTIN RUZICKA, being duly sworn and
16 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth
17 and nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

18 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And if you would, please state your
19 full name for the record.

20 MR. RUZICKA: Justin Ruzicka.

21 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Mr. Ruzicka, a couple of
22 notes before we get cracking here. This -- this
23 body is charged with the evaluation of
24 candidates and the qualification, whether or not
25 they meet the statutory and constitutional

1 qualifications as outlined in our evaluative
2 criteria, which you no doubt have seen. And the
3 consequence of that is that we cannot go into
4 any issues or matters that you experienced in
5 terms of re-litigating that. We can't change
6 any of those results. And we have in our
7 possession all of the materials that you have
8 submitted thus far. I'll just note and thank
9 you for the organization and presentation. I
10 think just as a preliminary note it's very
11 clear, and I appreciate that.

12 MR. RUZICKA: You're welcome.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Candidly, it's not always presented
14 that way. So I'm grateful to you for that. I
15 want to make sure that I give you a free, full
16 hearing on the concerns that you have with
17 respect to Judge Dunbar's qualification. But as
18 you know, we don't have an unlimited amount of
19 time to do that. And I thought I might just
20 simply ask you how much time do you think you
21 need to give us, again, new material here today?

22 MR. RUZICKA: No new material. Maybe 15 minutes of
23 voicing -- to cover the material I've got.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Okay.

25 MR. RUZICKA: You've got it in front of you.

1 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Ordinarily, our rules confine us to
2 only new material. So I want to make sure you
3 have a chance to be heard though.

4 MR. RUZICKA: Okay.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: So I'm not going to hold you to the
6 letter of that. But I'm going to ask you maybe
7 could we say seven minutes is a good way to get
8 there?

9 MR. RUZICKA: Sure. Easily.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. I'm going to turn it
11 over to Mr. Hinson, and he's going to direct
12 some questions to you about the complaint that
13 you've brought forward. And you'll see
14 afterwards, if you choose to stay, he also
15 directs questions to the Judge at the outset of
16 things. So this is kind of how things run here.
17 I hope to not have to interrupt the colloquy
18 between the two of you. And it's easiest for me
19 to not get involved. If we all remember that
20 the lady to your left, the court reporter, can
21 only write down one voice at a time. And when
22 people talk over each other, I have to then
23 interrupt. And nobody wants me to do that. So
24 that all having been said, let's put seven
25 minutes on the clock and recognize Mr. Hinson.

1 Thank you, Mr. Ruzicka.

2 EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. HINSON:

4 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Ruzicka. How are you doing?

5 A. Good. Thank you.

6 Q. We've spoken on the phone a couple times, but my name
7 is Jimmy Hinson. I'm the screening attorney for Ms.
8 Dunbar. My understanding, we have provided you with
9 a copy of your complaint.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And that is in front of you.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And that appears to be accurate as to what you
14 submitted?

15 A. Absolutely.

16 Q. Okay. As Chairman Caskey stated, we're not, you
17 know, looking for any new material or anything beyond
18 what you've submitted. That's been reviewed by the
19 Commission. My questions are more to clarify what
20 you submitted. And I just want to make sure the
21 Commission has a full understanding of what's in the
22 documents.

23 A. Sure.

24 Q. And so if it's okay with you, I'm just going to start
25 from your first -- your Roman numeral one, and your

1 first allegation. And it involves the counterclaim
2 that you filed in response to the complaint, or your
3 ex-wife's complaint, and seeking to hold you in
4 willful contempt. As I read it, it appears that you
5 believe that counterclaim was dismissed for failure
6 to provide proper service, that Ms. Dunbar dismissed
7 your counterclaim for improper service. What I want
8 to clarify is your Exhibit E, which you submitted.
9 That is the -- that is the final order signed by
10 Judge Dunbar. And it does not address the
11 counterclaim at all, it doesn't dismiss it at all.
12 And I'll also -- and when I reviewed your Exhibit H,
13 which would be the transcript, on page 59 and page
14 60, it appears that she -- she finds that the
15 counterclaim is not properly before her, because a
16 rule to show cause had not been issued against your
17 ex-wife. And so I'm trying to clarify your
18 complaint, your allegation, which suggests she
19 dismissed your counterclaim for improper service when
20 it appears to me, she did not rule that it was
21 improper service. That it seems that it just was not
22 properly before her. And I wanted to give you a
23 chance to clarify that.

24 A. It appears that the conversation during the court --
25 while we were at court, is -- was pre-transcript.

1 And apparently not on the record. Because there was
2 a back and forth between myself and the opposing
3 counsel. And opposing counsel said I had -- I had
4 not properly served the plaintiff, my ex-wife, the
5 counterclaim. And so I don't see that in the
6 transcript. And I see the very beginning. None of
7 that conversation that happened. So it's not --
8 unfortunately, it's not on the record. But that --
9 that's -- and so at the end, it seems like to cover
10 herself, she said that it wasn't before her, to
11 answer your question.

12 **Q. So just to clarify that conversation, you said that**
13 **was between you and opposing counsel?**

14 A. During -- during -- we're standing in front of the
15 judge. We're -- and there was -- I thought we were
16 under -- under, you know -- but it's not -- it's not
17 here.

18 **Q. Okay. Fair enough.**

19 A. Yeah.

20 **Q. Thank you. And I'm -- I'm going to -- I'm going to**
21 **kind of lump in a few of these.**

22 A. Sure.

23 **Q. Because as I look at your Roman numeral two, I**
24 **believe it's three, four, and six, those all go to**
25 **paragraph five.**

1 A. That's really the paragraph that's -- yes, sir.

2 Q. Yes, sir. Okay. So I'm going to lump those together
3 in the next set of questions. But it appears that
4 you alleged that Judge Dunbar basically rubber
5 stamped the proposed order submitted by your ex-
6 wife's attorney. That that was bias towards you as a
7 pro se litigant. That that proposed order called for
8 your immediate arrest for failure to comply, that
9 that denied you due process for -- you call it self-
10 executing, a self-executing clause in the order. And
11 essentially some failure on your part to act in the
12 future would result in an arrest and you would not
13 have an opportunity to be heard before court. And it
14 goes back to where I started, Judge Dunbar basically
15 rubber stamped what the -- your ex-wife's attorney
16 proposed. Going back to your exhibits, I'm looking
17 at Exhibit E, again, the final order. Exhibit F,
18 I've been operating under the assumption that that is
19 the proposed order, because it is different than your
20 E, which is the final order. But as I read the final
21 order, Judge Dunbar handwrites in paragraph five that
22 failure to comply would result not in a custodial
23 arrest, but it would result in a bench warrant.
24 Which would allow you to be brought before the court
25 to explain why you have not fulfilled the terms of

1 the order, which was final payment of outstanding
2 attorneys fees. So again, I'm just trying for the
3 Commission's sake trying to bridge some gaps between
4 what I'm reading in the complaint and what I'm
5 reading in your exhibits. And so if you could
6 clarify that for me as well.

7 A. Yeah. Well, issuing a bench warrant for a
8 hypothetical future event is not following the due
9 process protected under the Constitution and under
10 the Articles, you know, of South Carolina 1 and
11 Section 3. So there is no due process there. It's
12 denied.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. For future, hypothetical event.

15 Q. Okay. And like I said, I just lumped in what I think
16 were about four of your six. So I do want to give
17 you just a second to expound on that if you want.
18 Otherwise, I just have one other area of your
19 complaint that I would like to address before I turn
20 it back over to Chairman Caskey. If you have
21 anything else on those four. Because again, I kind
22 of -- did kind of lump them together. I just want to
23 make sure you have an opportunity.

24 A. I mean, paragraph five, you know, you're -- the
25 Commission's concerns are for nine criteria. You

1 know, Constitutional qualifications being one of
2 them. And if a judge disregards Constitutional
3 mandates in practice, it would suggest that it
4 disqualifies her fitness to uphold them. And again,
5 in my order, she bypassed article one, section three,
6 due process clause, but pre-judging future contempt
7 without any hearing, without -- rubber stamping, as
8 you said, one side, the proposed order from one side.
9 And I don't believe this is a mere error. I believe
10 it's a systematic failure to -- failure of honor of
11 the qualifications that she swore to defend. I also
12 think it speaks boldly regards to her ethical fitness
13 without being neutral. You know, Canon 3(b),
14 paragraph seven, specifically is against ex parte
15 influences, and effectively by endorsing one party's
16 draft without neutral revision, moreover pre-imposing
17 contempt for future actions flouts Canon 1's
18 commitment to justice without impropriety, eroding
19 the public confidence. And my affidavit does cite a
20 few other instances in this case where similarly one
21 sided rulings were ignored. Pro se evidence was not
22 taken into consideration. Again, this just amplifies
23 the ethical lapse in Judge Dunbar. And I guess one
24 thing that I didn't include in my draft to you guys,
25 and I apologize for that, was an e-mail that I had

1 received from the attorney, Vanessa Kormylo's
2 assistant, where she had stated she would be hand-
3 delivering the proposed order to the judge that day.
4 So that's -- that's where I'm saying that it was ex
5 parte communication that that might not have been
6 known or in my prior stuff. Again, also --

7 Q. Okay. I'm getting --

8 A. Go ahead.

9 Q. Just -- yeah. Just to -- I want to make sure we -- I
10 want to give you an opportunity to address anything
11 the chairman has after my questions and --

12 A. Sure.

13 Q. -- I want to abide by his seven and a half minute
14 rule here. But the last thing that I want to ask
15 before I, again, turn it back over to Chairman Caskey
16 is, it's your -- I believe it's your Roman numeral
17 five. And in the order, there's a mention of the
18 property you own in Florida, or at least you owned at
19 that time. And you state in the complaint that she
20 pre-judged the liquidity of that Florida asset
21 without evidence or cross-examination. And I want to
22 point you to, again, your -- your own Exhibit H,
23 which is the transcript. And I'm looking at page 70.
24 And -- I'm sorry, page 71, line 24 in response to
25 question -- questioning about that Florida property.

1 You state that you could have done that. And I'm
2 just looking again, that's line 24 in response to
3 questions from your ex-wife's attorney. And then I'm
4 also looking at the top of page 72, line 3, where
5 you're asked if there's \$114,000 of equity in that
6 property. And you answer, It does, I believe. And
7 so I'm, again, just to clarify some -- trying to
8 bridge a gap again that in your complaint, you're ask
9 -- you're saying that she's pre-judging it without
10 evidence, but you're on the record saying you could
11 have sold it, and there is equity in that property.
12 And I just want to give you a chance to clarify that
13 for the Commission's sake.

14 A. Yeah. That's a Florida property. The state of South
15 Carolina has no jurisdiction outside of the South
16 Carolina border. So having any ruling that would
17 reflect a -- something that doesn't have
18 jurisdiction, it's a moot point how much equity is in
19 the property. And in my mere belief of equity,
20 again, is not evidence as it were to show I'm not a -
21 - I'm not a appraiser, you know, so I'm not an expert
22 in this -- you know, so that's the -- that's the
23 level of which I was communicating.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. And where are you seeing this is paragraph -- in

1 Roman numeral five? What paragraph, subparagraph?

2 Q. G. I'm sorry, G. I'm sorry, F. Judge Dunbar is
3 pre-judging the liquidity of the Florida asset
4 without evidence or cross-examination. The judge
5 denied due process and manifested bias towards the
6 plaintiff's narrative. So in pre-judging the
7 liquidity without evidence, I'm just looking at the
8 transcript where she heard testimony from you that it
9 could have been sold, and there was equity.

10 A. Again, that's not -- that's not evidence. That's not
11 evidence. It's -- I'm not a -- and when we're at our
12 original, you know, court hearing in the 2023, this
13 standard of evidence provided by an expert witness
14 was that they had to, you know, be specified in the
15 field, they had to have many years, they had to have
16 training and school and knowledge. And so evidence,
17 again, was not just the testimony of a layperson in
18 America.

19 Q. Okay. Thank you.

20 MR. HINSON: Mr. Chairman, that's all the questions I
21 have about the complaint.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Thank you, Mr. Hinson.

23 Mr. Ruzicka, I want to give you a chance -- you
24 know, we went through the questioning. And I
25 recognize that our time there was broken up.

1 And you may have come with an idea of what you
2 really wanted to say. And we've gone about 14
3 minutes or so on it. I want to extend to you
4 though, let's call it around five minutes. And
5 you -- if you want to take it. And if not,
6 certainly understand. So you know, procedurally
7 where this is headed is we'll have taken your
8 testimony. We'll invite the judge back up to
9 make any comments in response that she wants or
10 not. And then we will proceed with the other
11 screening questions that are a part of this
12 process. Then the Commission will have a -- at
13 some point, we will enter into an executive
14 session. And enter into deliberation. So there
15 won't be any resolution tonight for you to walk
16 away with. But I just want to make sure you
17 understood where we were headed. And so having
18 said all of that, if you'd like to share with us
19 any thoughts.

20 MR. RUZICKA: I prepared something. I would
21 appreciate it.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Yes, sir. I'd be happy to hear
23 from you.

24 MR. RUZICKA: Okay. Thank you. Good afternoon. I
25 appreciate your guys' time and effort in this.

1 And I'll try to be as brief as I can. I'm a
2 resident of South Carolina. I've witnessed, you
3 know, the actions of the Honorable Tarita A.
4 Dunbar in the 13th Judicial Court both with
5 legal counsel and both without legal counsel as
6 a pro se defendant in the family court. Either
7 way, injustices are drafted in orders every
8 time. And I come here not out of personal
9 animus, but as a concerned citizens who believes
10 in the integrity of the judiciary. And I know
11 according to your procedural rules, and you
12 know, that your Commission's sacred duty is to
13 rigorously screen candidates on the nine core
14 criteria that was thankfully e-mailed, and I
15 appreciate it, and hold that only the highest
16 caliber serve on our bench. These criteria, I
17 think, safeguard public trust, they uphold due
18 process, and they protect the Constitutional
19 rights of all South Carolinians. Especially the
20 vulnerable parties of the family court where
21 lives and families hang in the balance. In my
22 case, spanning over five years, Judge Dunbar
23 presided with the pattern of conduct that I
24 respectfully submit falls short of these
25 standards. My affidavit details multiple

1 instances, but I will focus on the most
2 egregious, the Rule to Show Cause, paragraph
3 five, that drafted verbatim the plaintiff's
4 proposed version despite my objections, and
5 opposed an automatic willful contempt sanctions
6 for hypothetical future, non-payment of attorney
7 fees. This is without prejudice, without
8 hearing, or an opportunity to be heard. This is
9 not justice. This is judicial sabotage of the
10 highest degree. It violates the core principles
11 that the Constitution, 14th Amendment, and the
12 very fabric that our country was founded upon,
13 that all are innocent until proven guilty. This
14 screams from the rooftops injustice shown by a
15 tyrant dictator. And it also violates South
16 Carolina Article 1, Section 3, SCRP Rule 40,
17 paragraph C, which requires contempt proceedings
18 to follow specific procedural safeguards,
19 including a rule to show cause before sanctions.
20 As a pro se litigant, I was denied a level
21 playing field as Vanessa Kormylo submitted her
22 proposal on July 17th. I reviewed it,
23 responded. She ignored those responses. And
24 hand-delivered it to the judge where Judge
25 Dunbar signed the version ignoring my

1 adaptations, and accepting the plaintiff's
2 language wholesome. This bias arose the due
3 process rights and exemplifies a broader
4 detriment to South Carolina citizens under her
5 tenure. Let me tie these facts directly to your
6 nine criteria. Again, the qualifications, you
7 know, I already said constitutionally, that yes,
8 she is -- does meet the baseline. She's a
9 citizen, she's of age, she's been an attorney
10 eight plus years, five years of residency. But
11 I would strongly urge that her disregard for
12 constitutional mandates in practice disqualifies
13 her fitness to uphold them. I would also say, I
14 -- professional and academic ability, a
15 qualified judge must be, quote, well-versed and
16 fundamental legal principles and procedural
17 rules, end quote, per your checklist. Judge
18 Dunbar's order misapplies SCRPC Rule 40,
19 paragraph C, which mandates a hearing and
20 findings on contempt, not automatic future
21 penalties. She overlooked South Carolina Code
22 15-35-30's requirement for clear, specific
23 orders, enforceable only post-violation. In
24 paragraph three, she acknowledge my improved
25 finances, increased rental income, and cleared

1 debts, yet arbitrarily found me in willful
2 contempt and ignoring the evidentiary standards
3 under Rule 43. This isn't scholarly application
4 of the law, it's a root of favoritism as if
5 academic rigor was abandoned for expediency. My
6 submitted financial declaration was uncontested
7 and proved my ability to make payments,
8 installments. Yet she imposed a \$5,000 purge
9 without considering alternatives. There are
10 affordable in South Carolina Code 20-3-130. You
11 know, the fourth quality for a good -- for a
12 quality judge that you guys judge on is
13 character. Character demands, quote, ethical
14 standards and work habits, end quote. Be above
15 reproach. With financial responsibility as a
16 proxy for self-discipline. As Judge Dunbar's
17 hasty signing of biased orders rushing past my
18 June 18th response reflects poor work habits and
19 ethical shortcuts. Her pattern detailed in my
20 affidavit of dismissing motions without hearings
21 suggests intolerance for pro se voices,
22 compromising the impartiality that defines
23 judicial character. Character is revealed in
24 how a judge treats the unrepresented. Jailing a
25 father for 90 days over a \$10,000 balance when

1 he had already paid \$42,000 over the course of
2 two years to the plaintiff who then waived
3 strict compliance for two years demonstrates
4 punitive bias and impartial character. South
5 Carolinians deserves judges whose deeds, not
6 just words, exhibit unwavering integrity.
7 Reputation, the fifth category. Your Commission
8 wisely solicits a bar and clerk to input -- to
9 gauge reputation. As practicing lawyers and
10 those exposed to the court system must have
11 confidence in the judiciary. Yet in
12 Greenville's 13th Court, 13th Circuit, the
13 whispers of Judge Dunbar's detriment to families
14 grows louder. In cases one of many her public
15 dockets showing repeated appeals and complaints
16 by inking orders that deny basic fairness, she
17 tarnishes not just her own reputation, but South
18 Carolina's bench as well. Anonymous surveys
19 under your Rule 10 would likely reveal this
20 erosion. And I encourage deeper inquiry beyond
21 just the bench and bar poll.

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Mr. Ruzicka?

23 MR. RUZICKA: Yep.

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: You've gone about seven minutes now.

25 MR. RUZICKA: I have one more paragraph.

1 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. I was just going to
2 extend to you about three minutes or so to land
3 the plane.

4 MR. RUZICKA: Awesome.

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Because I think you've done a
6 masterful job in presenting your perspective
7 with us, so with that --

8 MR. RUZICKA: I appreciate your patience.

9 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Yes, sir.

10 MR. RUZICKA: And thank you for your grace.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I want you to feel heard.

12 MR. RUZICKA: Your eight category is judicial
13 temperament. A strong emphasis here. Judges
14 must avoid arrogant, impatient, arbitrary
15 conduct. Judge Dunbar's order exemplifies
16 arbitrariness. Sentencing me to 90 days in jail
17 for past fees while preemptively threatening
18 warrants for future lapses without Rule 40's
19 process, 90 days in jail was a sentence Judge
20 Dunbar ordered for me owing \$10,000 of an
21 original \$52,000 expense, attorneys fees that I
22 was ordered to pay. I had paid \$42,000 over the
23 course of two years, an average of \$20,000 a
24 year. The plaintiff accepted every one of those
25 payments without objection, without filing a

1 contempt, and without demanding the balance
2 within the originally 200 day window. A long
3 standing South Carolina law that conducts --
4 that conduct constitutes acquiescence and waiver
5 of strict deadlines. Equitable estoppel against
6 later claiming willful contempt and the
7 modifications of the party's courses of conduct.
8 The plaintiff can't sleep on her rights for two
9 years and accept substantial 80 percent payment,
10 and then suddenly demand jail time for unpaid
11 remainder. Yet Judge Dunbar ignored all these
12 uncontradicted evidence and testimony. Evidence
13 that the plaintiff provided, Judge Dunbar made
14 no findings whatsoever as to the waiver or
15 estoppel and posted a draconian 90 days jail
16 sentence that was impartial. This is not
17 impartial justice. It's punitive, overbearing,
18 and the bias shocks one's conscious.
19 Furthermore, the plaintiff admits in her own
20 writing that she sustains strenuous objections
21 from the defendant but curtailed my responses
22 per the orders on recital. A temperate judge
23 does not award a party's two year acquiescence
24 with sudden jail time while simultaneously
25 giving the same party's hand-delivered order

preferential treatment. This isn't arbitrary. It's overbearing, it's hostile to pro se litigants. This impatient towards pro se parties fosters an adversarial not equitable temperament. Impeding justice is your own criteria warned.

CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, Mr. Ruzicka.

MR. RUZICKA: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I appreciate you being here. You've given us a lot to think about. Again, I appreciate your time.

MR. RUZICKA: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Judge Dunbar, if you will. Yeah, I'm going to recognize Mr. Hinson.

RE-EXAMINATION

BY MR. HINSON:

Q. Judge Dunbar?

A. Yes. Well first, I just want to say good afternoon to Mr. Chairman and Mr. Vice Chairman and to these honorable committee members. Thank you for your time and it's an honor for me to be here before you today.

Q. Judge, you've received the complaint. You've had a chance to review it. And you've heard his testimony today. Would you like to offer any response to that?

1 A. Well, just that -- to respect y'all's time, I deny
2 everything that Mr. Ruzicka has said and I deny
3 everything that he's indicated in his complaint
4 against me. And --

5 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Judge, will you pull the microphone
6 a bit closer.

7 MS. DUNBAR: Oh, I'm sorry.

8 A. I deny specifically everything that Mr. Ruzicka said
9 here today. I deny everything that he's complained
10 about me in the record. And I will let the record
11 speak for itself, but I could not help but indicate
12 that there's a misunderstanding about the -- from Mr.
13 Ruzicka regarding him being punished for future
14 violations. That order, the bench warrant, was
15 issued if he does not comply with the purge. I held
16 him in contempt. He had opportunity to purge. If he
17 does not do the purge, then the 90 days would kick
18 in. So it's not for future violations. Just to
19 clarify that. Does that make sense? And so I'll let
20 the remainder of the record speak for itself.

21 **Q. All right. Thank you for that, Judge Dunbar. Judge**
22 **Dunbar, after serving 11 years on the family court,**
23 **why do you want to continue serving as a family court**
24 **judge?**

25 A. I love being a family court judge, and most

1 importantly, I love the state of South Carolina. And
2 I care about families. And I want to continue on my
3 work in this pursuit.

4 **Q. Judge Dunbar, what do you think your reputation is**
5 **among attorneys that practice before you?**

6 A. Well, unfortunately, we don't get any feedback,
7 because naturally they are more likely afraid to say
8 if they have a complaint against you. You only get
9 the complaints when it's time for re-election. I do
10 wish there was an opportunity that I could get
11 feedback, because I take this feedback and these
12 complaints or negative comments or any comments
13 seriously. And I want to improve and be a better
14 judge. But I believe that I'm known as a caring
15 judge. I brought some letters here that I have from
16 different lawyers that indicate that it's a pleasure
17 to practice in your court, and I have one from an
18 attorney that indicated that she -- if I can have a
19 moment to read that.

20 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Judge, I'm afraid --

21 A. They tell me how kind I am and --

22 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Judge, I'm afraid the -- if I can
23 interrupt just briefly. I'm afraid our rules
24 preclude us from accepting anything at this
25 stage in the proceedings.

1 MS. DUNBAR: Okay. So I couldn't read anything?

2 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: No, ma'am.

3 MS. DUNBAR: Okay.

4 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you.

5 A. Well, anyway, I've gotten letters and people
6 complimenting me and thanking me for listening and I
7 believe I have a great reputation.

8 Q. Thank you, Judge. Judge, what is your view on if and
9 when ex parte communications are allowed?

10 A. I never engage in ex parte communications, ever. I
11 make sure to copy every person, just to be careful,
12 just to be safe.

13 Q. Thank you. Judge Dunbar, in your PDQ you disclosed
14 three separate political donations to members of the
15 House and the Senate. Did you make those donations,
16 or did a member of your family make those donations?

17 A. A member of my family. I did not.

18 Q. Thank you. Judge Dunbar, the Commission received 437
19 ballot box surveys regarding you with 58 additional
20 comments. The ballot box survey, for example,
21 contained the following positive comments. One
22 comment stated you have excellent demeanor and
23 competency. Another described you as knowledgeable,
24 patient, courteous, objective, pragmatic, and fair.
25 Some of the comments express concerns, and while many

1 of the comments were positive in describing your
2 knowledge of the law, some raised concerns about your
3 academic ability that you sometimes issued
4 inconsistent ruling, and that perhaps you lack
5 confidence to make difficult decisions. What
6 response would you offer and -- what response would
7 you offer to those concerns.

8 A. Okay. I first want to say that I'm a judge that I
9 don't think that I'm omnipotent or that I have all
10 knowledge knowing everything. If I'm not too proud,
11 that an error is pointed out to me that I've made in
12 my ruling or any decisions that I've made, I'm happy
13 to change those decisions. I work hard. I take my
14 time and deliberate. I use the advice of the
15 Honorable Joseph McGowan that told me, Tarita, in
16 particular on temporary hearings, because that's
17 where most of the cases come in on, is that take it
18 under advisement, but make sure that you give the
19 ruling before the end of the week, and that's what I
20 do. And I realize the importance of my decisions,
21 how they affect and change the trajectory of people's
22 lives. So I take my time and I deliberate. And as
23 far as inconsistent rulings without any specificity,
24 I -- this -- the first time I came up for re-
25 election, there was never a complaint on that. But I

1 have in mind one person or one attorney that might
2 feel that way in regards to attorneys fees where this
3 lawyer came in the court on a temporary hearing, and
4 I submitted my ruling by a memo by e-mail, and I
5 indicated in there my reasons for denying temporary,
6 but holding her temporary attorney's fees in
7 abeyance, because she did not submit itemized
8 statement of those fees. The attorney was very angry
9 about it. And at the next hearing, she came -- that
10 attorney came in in regards to a modification of a
11 financial matter in a divorce decree. And the order
12 specifically stated in the divorce decree that the
13 financial burden could not be modified. And the
14 attorney on the opposite side was requesting
15 attorney's fees. And it was my fault that they left
16 the courtroom without me getting the attorney's fees.
17 So I e-mailed the attorneys to ask them to submit the
18 attorney's fees, and I would consider giving her some
19 attorney's fees, because I think it was just clear to
20 me that the litigant on the opposite side, the
21 defendant had to come into court on something that
22 was obvious in the order that that financial
23 situation could not be modified. And I gave her some
24 of her attorney's fees, and the attorney of course --
25 and I understand where the anger came from. So

1 that's the only thing I can think of that could be
2 considered an inconsistent ruling.

3 **Q. Thank you, Judge. Another concern was that you**
4 **sometimes make comments that can be perceived as**
5 **personal in nature and can perhaps show bias. How**
6 **would you respond to those concerns?**

7 A. Well, let me just say this, any comment that I make
8 comes from a heart of caring. I make sure that I --
9 that every litigant feels utterly respected and
10 they're -- and respected, and I respect them, and I'm
11 never rude on any comments that I say. I just feel
12 the room. And I don't make anything any comments --
13 I've been complimented actually from litigants and
14 from attorneys. But thank you for saying that. And
15 so, I -- like on one comment I had recently with one
16 father, he came in for a second temporary hearing.
17 And this particular parent had an issue with
18 drinking. And I saw in the affidavits where he loves
19 cycling and he loves pickleball. And I told him, I
20 said, I don't know why you're drinking. There's --
21 it's a concern, but the mother was pointing that out.
22 And I said that why don't you pick up cycling? You
23 love cycling and pickleball. I said, cycling could
24 become a very addictive, and that could be something
25 you could do instead of turning to the bottle. So

1 whatever I offer is out of concern and care, and I'm
2 careful what I say to not be condescending or rude or
3 disrespectful in any way.

4 Q. Thank you, Judge Dunbar. I would note that the
5 Upstate Citizens Committee found Judge Dunbar
6 qualified in the evaluative criteria of
7 constitutional qualifications, physical health, and
8 mental stability. The Committee found her well-
9 qualified in the evaluative criteria of ethical
10 fitness, professional and academic ability,
11 character, reputation, experience, and judicial
12 temperament. The Committee stated in summary: Judge
13 Dunbar's poise and graciousness is always well-
14 received, and it is reflected in her courtroom as our
15 investigation revealed. Lawyers and litigants alike
16 are treated fairly with dignity and respect, and she
17 is a credit to the family court bench. And Judge, I
18 just have some housekeeping questions for you.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. JMSC procedural Rule 17 includes a prohibition of any
21 candidate from attending or watching any portion of
22 the live stream or recordings of the public hearings
23 of this cycle until after all hearings are concluded.
24 Have you watched or listened to any of these hearings
25 before your appearance today?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Has any other person relayed any information about
3 any of the proceedings before the Commission to you?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
6 contacted any members of the Commission about your
7 candidacy?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including the
10 limitations on contacting members of the General
11 Assembly regarding your screening?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Since submitting your letter of intent, have you
14 sought or received a pledge of any legislator either
15 prior to this date or pending the outcome of your
16 screen?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members
19 of the General Assembly on your behalf --

20 A. No.

21 Q. -- or are you aware of anyone attempting to intervene
22 in this process on your behalf?

23 A. Absolutely not.

24 Q. Have you reviewed and do you understand the
25 Commission's guidelines on pledging and South

1 **Carolina Code 2-19-70(e)?**

2 A. Yes.

3 **Q. Okay.**

4 MR. HINSON: And I would just note for the record
5 that any concerns raised during the
6 investigation regarding the candidate were
7 incorporated into the question and the candidate
8 today. And with that, Mr. Chairman, I don't
9 have any further questions.

10 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you, sir. Members of the
11 Commission have questions for Judge Dunbar?
12 Representative Stavrinakis?

13 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Judge, how are you?

14 JUDGE DUNBAR: I'm doing well, thank you.

15 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Good to see you.

16 JUDGE DUNBAR: Good to see you too.

17 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Thank you for your
18 service.

19 JUDGE DUNBAR: Thank you.

20 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: And for wanting to
21 continue to serve. Overall, your -- your ballot
22 box comments are very positive, and I -- you
23 know, I think all of us try to temper our
24 questions at the beginning with that. But I do
25 want to ask you, there are a couple that were

1 pretty specific about instances where they claim
2 that you made comments that suggested that in
3 cases where there's allegations of domestic
4 violence, that the females need to get married
5 and stay married in those relationships.

6 JUDGE DUNBAR: No.

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay.

8 JUDGE DUNBAR: I would never say anything like that.

9 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: All right. I mean, can
10 you help us explain where that may be coming
11 from then? I mean, these are two different --
12 it looks like two different, am I right, it
13 looks like two different ones. Yeah. It looks
14 like there are two different ones, and they're
15 somewhat similar but a little bit different in
16 these -- these allegations of -- well, it's a
17 similar allegation.

18 JUDGE DUNBAR: Right.

19 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: But they're different.

20 It looks like they're different. You can't -- I
21 don't think it's possible for a person to submit
22 twice. So --

23 JUDGE DUNBAR: Right. I cannot fathom that I would
24 say stay married to someone that committed
25 domestic violence.

1 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. So --

2 JUDGE DUNBAR: I mean, maybe they -- I've said to stay
3 married, but maybe it was -- I didn't see any
4 evidence of domestic violence. I -- I have
5 orders of protection, and I never -- most of
6 those people aren't married, so I'm just
7 confused.

8 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Well, one of them I think
9 it's get married and stay married.

10 JUDGE DUNBAR: Not with --

11 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: And the other, it is get
12 married and stay married no matter what.

13 JUDGE DUNBAR: No. I don't say it in those terms, no.
14 And what I'll say is that I have to -- I have to
15 make an attempt to reconcile people's marriages,
16 but not in any way do I say that about stay
17 married forever or under any circumstance. No.

18 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Judge, I don't practice
19 in family court, so I -- honestly, I don't know
20 how these things are handled. But in terms of
21 reconciling or attempting to reconcile.

22 JUDGE DUNBAR: We have to do a reconciliation
23 conference. That's part of the statute.

24 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. But does that
25 typically involve, you know, a declaration from

1 the bench that people should stay married? I
2 mean --

3 JUDGE DUNBAR: I never say stay married, but what --
4 what I can tell you --

5 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. Just -- just --

6 JUDGE DUNBAR: Okay.

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Let me --

8 JUDGE DUNBAR: Okay.

9 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: I would -- I would, you
10 know -- look, again, I don't do this work. I'm
11 just trying to ask. I would be surprised though
12 if that's the way that the court should --
13 should be proceeding. I'm not saying you are.
14 I'm just saying that's what's being said here.
15 And I would like, you know, if you could educate
16 me on how that works in general, and then
17 respond to these specific allegations.

18 JUDGE DUNBAR: Okay. Now I do -- I remember one case
19 where I had a DSS parent. They completed their
20 treatment plan. They had two children, and I
21 congratulated them. And I said, what are you
22 going to do next. And I -- and they didn't -- I
23 said, you're going to get married. And they got
24 married, and they invited me to the wedding. So
25 I can't think of anything that I've said to

1 anybody about stay married under any
2 circumstances.

3 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay.

4 JUDGE DUNBAR: Now, I do say it to the individuals
5 that leave from separate support and maintenance
6 agreement when someone is very emotional, I say
7 you're not divorced yet, you can still get back
8 together if that's what you wish.

9 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Sure.

10 JUDGE DUNBAR: Yeah.

11 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. Well, you know,
12 kind of the way I've approached this is -- with
13 everybody is I think it's hard for us to, you
14 know, sometimes to figure out exactly what went
15 on.

16 JUDGE DUNBAR: Yeah.

17 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: We don't have the context
18 of a case --

19 JUDGE DUNBAR: Yeah.

20 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- Of a hearing. But,
21 you know, the way I feel personally about doing
22 this is, you know, what I would like to see our
23 judges do is when they hear these kinds of
24 things to take them to heart, certainly.

25 JUDGE DUNBAR: Of course.

1 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Rather than just
2 blanketly say I don't do that. Like somebody
3 has a strong perception and memory of an issue.
4 And what I would like to hear from you and --
5 you know, I've kind of done this with everybody,
6 is an acknowledgment that people had a certain
7 experience that they've shared, and that we can
8 do better. And so hopefully, you will do that.
9 And I thank you for indulging me with those
10 questions --

11 JUDGE DUNBAR: Well, I'm glad you did.

12 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- and for your
13 responses. Yes, ma'am.

14 JUDGE DUNBAR: And, of course, I will make sure that I
15 just don't say anything.

16 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Well, I want you to do
17 your job.

18 JUDGE DUNBAR: Yeah.

19 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay? We all do.

20 JUDGE DUNBAR: Right. But I speak from -- I never
21 disrespect anyone. I don't. I try my hardest
22 to make every individual think that I care.

23 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Okay. And -- and that's
24 great that you go and do it with that. But
25 again, I just want to say again, that some folks

1 have presented some specific responses here.

2 And again --

3 JUDGE DUNBAR: Okay.

4 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: -- I would like you to --
5 this is me talking -- Take those to heart.

6 JUDGE DUNBAR: Oh, I will.

7 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Do some self-evaluation,
8 some reflection on things that we can all always
9 do better. Right?

10 JUDGE DUNBAR: Of course.

11 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: And criticism is not the
12 end of the world.

13 JUDGE DUNBAR: No.

14 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: It's not. It's not a
15 total, you know, catastrophe. Again, we can
16 always do better.

17 JUDGE DUNBAR: Of course. I want to do better.

18 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: That goes for me first of
19 all though. Okay? Thank you.

20 JUDGE DUNBAR: Thank you.

21 REPRESENTATIVE STAVRINAKIS: Yes, ma'am.

22 JUDGE DUNBAR: Thank you, sir.

23 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Other members of the Commission with
24 questions? Senator Rankin?

25 SENATOR RANKIN: Judge Dunbar?

1 JUDGE DUNBAR: Yes.

2 SENATOR RANKIN: Luke Rankin. I have been listening.

3 I have not been sitting watching, but I've been
4 listening to the complaint, listening to the
5 exchange. And I am -- I remember our time
6 together. I'm reminded of our time together by
7 the gentleman sitting behind you over your left
8 shoulder.

9 JUDGE DUNBAR: Oh, yeah.

10 SENATOR RANKIN: Senator Robbie Sabb. Who was on this
11 Commission before when we visited with you. And
12 I remember there was a challenge and not
13 complaint, but a challenge with your reception
14 and I guess perception within the bar in the
15 Upstate. And I want you to know, obviously
16 giving credence to and hearing the complaint,
17 but also recognizing your response and denial in
18 the record, which we have to judge that this is
19 not an easy job. It is a thankless job, and the
20 prospect of somebody being put in jail for a
21 \$10,000 payment towards a \$50,000 fine or fee or
22 whatever that was, or the decision with other
23 cases that have resulted in families being put
24 back together or children being adopted by
25 folks. The good and the bad and the difficult,

1 it is not an easy role. And so I commend you
2 for wanting to continue to do it. But I also
3 want to charge you lovingly, respectfully, and
4 to the degree that we can to strive to continue
5 to do better and to learn and to be a person in
6 the -- in the gap having to define between right
7 and wrong, not making friends, but trying to do
8 the right thing that the law requires you to do.
9 And so I just want to commend you for that. Not
10 pat you on the back solely.

11 JUDGE DUNBAR: I understand.

12 SENATOR RANKIN: But also try to help lift you up so
13 that you'll be exactly what you want to be when
14 you come back.

15 JUDGE DUNBAR: I appreciate that so much. I really
16 try, and I want to be a good judge. I really
17 do. I care. I honestly do. About every
18 individual that comes in this courtroom.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Other members of the Commission?
20 Judge, I'll just echo what Senator Rankin has
21 said. And, you know, I think the points that
22 Representative Stavrinakis raised with you are
23 important ones to take on.

24 JUDGE DUNBAR: Yes, of course.

25 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: I would be remiss if I didn't also

1 point out that some of the feedback in the
2 ballot box survey points towards what is
3 perceived as unpredictability. I raise it with
4 you not because there's a way to provide a real
5 direct answer and response to a generic
6 observation in the ballot box. But something to
7 be mindful of, because as lawyers, one of the
8 things, at least from my perspective, that I
9 value a lot from judges, and this is not to
10 diminish the other qualities that I appreciate
11 in judges, but predictability. If something --
12 if a judge wants to conduct business one way you
13 would expect the same judge to conduct the same
14 business in a similar way going forward. And
15 when that doesn't exist, it needlessly creates
16 stress, frustration, and other things that I
17 think degrade the most efficient operation of
18 the court system. And so I just raise it here
19 with you because we have an opportunity. And
20 again, I feel like I would be remiss if I didn't
21 share that with you as an area of concern as you
22 go forward.

23 JUDGE DUNBAR: Yes, for sure. Thank you. And I will
24 take all these comments and try to work harder.

25 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: And we're at -- let me just say, if

1 we were earlier in the day. I perhaps would
2 have used even more words to arrive at that
3 point, but being mindful of the darkened skies,
4 I don't want to keep you here any longer than it
5 is necessary. So that's perhaps my excuse for
6 directness at this point. All right. Let me
7 look around. And I don't see anyone else
8 indicating the desire to pose additional
9 questions to you. So that will conclude this
10 portion of the screening process. I do need to
11 take this opportunity to remind you that
12 pursuant to the Commission's evaluative
13 criteria, the Commission expects candidates to
14 follow the letter as well as the spirit of our
15 ethics laws and that we would view any
16 impropriety or -- appearance of impropriety or
17 violation as very serious and deserving
18 potentially of heavy weight in our screening
19 deliberations. On that note, as you know, the
20 record will remain open until the formal release
21 of the qualifications report and should the need
22 arise, we would have the ability to call you
23 back for further discussions if that need were
24 to arise.

25 MS. DUNBAR: Okay.

1 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Do you understand all of that?

2 MS. DUNBAR: Yes, sir.

3 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right. Wonderful. Thank you
4 for your service to the state of South Carolina.
5 Thank you for offering your continued judicial
6 service. And I wish you best -- wish you all
7 the best as you leave out of here this evening.

8 MS. DUNBAR: Well, thank you. And I thank you for the
9 comments and your questions. And I take them
10 seriously. And try to do better, I promise.

11 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All right.

12 MS. DUNBAR: All right. Thank y'all.

13 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: Thank you. That will conclude this
14 hearing. With no further business on our agenda
15 for today Senator Rankin moves that the body do
16 now recede until 9:00 A.M. tomorrow morning.
17 Does that sound right?

18 MS. CRAWFORD: Correct.

19 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: 9:00 A.M. tomorrow morning. That
20 motion being seconded by Representative
21 Stavrinakis. All in favor indicate by saying
22 aye.

23 MEMBERS: Aye

24 CHAIRMAN CASKEY: All opposed, nay? The ayes have it.
25 And the Commission will recede until 9:00 A.M.

1 tomorrow whereupon we will resume our screening
2 hearings. Thank you all for being here.

3 (Off the Record)

4 (There being no further questions, the hearings
5 concluded at 5:30 p.m.)
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2
3 I, KATHRYN BOSTROM, COURT REPORTER AND NOTARY PUBLIC
4 IN AND FOR THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AT LARGE, HEREBY
5 CERTIFY THAT I REPORTED THE HEARINGS ON TUESDAY, THE 18TH
6 DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025, THAT THE WITNESS WAS FIRST DULY
7 SWORN BY ME AND THAT THE FOREGOING 299 PAGES CONSTITUTE A
8 TRUE AND CORRECT TRANSCRIPTION OF MY STENOMASK REPORT OF
9 SAID DEPOSITION.

10 I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT I AM NEITHER ATTORNEY NOR
11 COUNSEL FOR, NOR RELATED TO OR EMPLOYED BY ANY OF THE
12 PARTIES CONNECTED WITH THIS ACTION, NOR AM I FINANCIALLY
13 INTERESTED IN SAID CAUSE.

14 I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE ORIGINAL OF SAID
15 TRANSCRIPT WAS THEREAFTER SEALED BY ME AND DELIVERED TO
16 ERIN CRAWFORD, GRESSETTE BUILDING, 1101 PENDLETON STREET,
17 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, WHO WILL RETAIN THIS SEALED
18 ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPT AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FILING
19 SAME WITH THE COURT PRIOR TO TRIAL OR ANY HEARING WHICH
20 MIGHT RESULT IN A FINAL ORDER ON ANY ISSUE.

21 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE SET MY HAND AND SEAL THIS
22 5th DAY OF JANUARY 2025.

23 

24 KATHRYN B. BOSTROM, COURT REPORTER

25 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUGUST 23, 2032

<hr/>	10th	15th	<hr/>	2012
\$	41:15	41:17	2	197:11,13
<hr/>	11	16	<hr/>	2013
\$10,000	8:10 93:8	93:9 155:1,2	2	197:12
274:25 276:20	279:22	16th	13:4 31:20	2015
294:21	111	72:25 77:2 92:6	57:16 72:24	199:1
\$114,000	257:10	96:8 107:18	2-19-70	2020
268:5	11th	17	20:19 38:20	77:1
\$20,000	11:11 106:24	20:5 37:21	62:8 81:3	2023
276:23	12	61:19 80:4	101:17 146:4	197:9 269:12
\$42,000	8:16 10:1,13,20	100:17 145:10	162:5 196:6	2024
275:1 276:22	11:6,7,18 84:18	155:4 161:10	220:22 286:9	125:2,7,23
\$5,000	93:11 129:25	195:11 220:3	2-19-70(e)	143:17 144:5
274:8	168:1,2 173:6	285:20	21:9 39:5 62:24	2025
\$50,000	198:25 202:11	17th	81:14 102:3	41:11,12
294:21	257:4	41:16 50:1	146:20 162:21	2026
\$52,000	128	272:22	196:22 221:13	168:5
276:21	96:21	18	287:1	21
<hr/>	12:23	32:24 49:20	20	212:22 224:19
0	153:17	183:6	82:8 84:5 95:20	22
<hr/>	12th	18th	105:18 108:9	105:16 212:25
0	56:8	6:6 274:18	109:10 114:9	23
8:10 10:1,13	13	19	115:20 127:13	82:8 213:3
11:6,18	93:14 98:9	49:21 137:13	131:8 133:5	24
<hr/>	13th	183:9 189:21	157:11 167:14,	124:22 179:4
1	255:1 271:4	212:23	17,19 183:12	257:3 267:24
<hr/>	275:12	1900s	185:9 186:18	268:2
1	14	135:2	225:8 227:25	25
13:1,2,5 57:13,	137:12 183:7	1960s	20-3-130	103:15 202:24
22 74:1,4 93:12	270:2	27:14	274:10	204:3,5,6 206:7,
183:10 213:1	146	198	200	9 216:11 257:6
265:10 272:16	142:17	77:9	277:2	26
1's	14th	1997	2000	257:9
266:17	272:11	184:10,25	34:18 171:8	27
10	15	1999	2000s	189:15,21
74:3 98:9	63:12 108:10	34:16	118:7	28
159:25 167:1,18	137:15 195:7	1:51	2007	186:18 207:9
175:19 185:5,6	202:21 259:22	153:17	43:16	255:22
199:2 254:20	15-35-30's	2010	2010	29
275:19	273:22	2011	191:21,24 192:6	184:25
100	152			294
87:25 116:19	159:1			

217:7 2:37 193:4 <hr/> 3 <hr/> 3 11:12 32:23 56:8 265:11 268:4 272:16 3(b) 266:13 30 17:6 22:25 51:16 103:15 123:23 142:18 167:20,23 207:16 34 59:19 365 175:3 377 35:24 3:06 193:4 <hr/> 4 <hr/> 4 33:1 40 59:18 167:6,19 228:22 272:16 273:18 40's 276:18 41 35:24 96:22 159:2 43 217:4 274:3	437 281:18 45 200:20 201:19 45-day 114:5 <hr/> 5 <hr/> 5 33:2 57:12 183:13 255:1 257:7 50 208:20 219:4 501 38:8 80:16 101:5 145:22 161:23 195:24 220:15 58 281:19 59 77:10 262:13 5:30 299:5 <hr/> 6 <hr/> 6 57:15 93:15 60 167:13,16 262:14 60s 27:8 614 15:16 <hr/> 7 <hr/> 7	57:18,19 137:16 153:25 155:5 182:3 211:8 70 267:23 71 267:24 72 15:17 268:4 75 204:2,4 79 217:8 7th 228:24 <hr/> 8 <hr/> 8 57:21 80 277:9 80s 26:9 81 206:8 82 129:24 83 132:17 85 30:6 86 189:14 206:10 <hr/> 9 <hr/> 9 73:25 213:4 90 274:25 276:16, 19 277:15	279:17 98 124:16 9:00 298:16,19,25 9:16 6:16 9:23 6:16 9th 153:25 170:15 182:3 186:4 211:7 214:21 235:17 238:2,3, 4,15 239:12 <hr/> A <hr/> A-N-D-R-E-A 255:17 A.M. 298:16,19,25 abandoned 274:5 abeyance 283:7 abide 37:11 267:13 ability 19:21 37:16 40:16 43:23 48:15 59:24 60:16 61:12 70:16 72:7 77:18 79:17,25 85:2 98:5 99:11, 12 100:4,14 145:6 158:7 161:5 181:8 188:19 191:10 193:24 194:12 203:2 210:16,19	219:18 273:14 274:7 282:3 285:10 297:22 abounding 213:22 abreast 141:15 absolute 69:13 absolutely 115:18 127:12 164:18 165:13 166:2 168:17 172:8 225:1 232:1 250:24 261:15 286:23 abstaining 8:3 14:11 abstention 7:25 abuse 140:15 157:24 abused 215:11,12,18 academic 19:21 37:16 61:12 79:17 100:4 145:6 161:5 193:24 194:12 219:18 273:14 274:5 282:3 285:10 accept 133:20,21,22 134:4 144:3,15 277:9 accepted 276:24 accepting 273:1 280:24 access 42:14 83:3
---	---	---	--	--

accessible 59:5	80:1 100:15	addition 78:24 96:1 142:22 159:13	admirable 47:5	advocacy 83:25
accident 143:18 144:6	acres 150:13 228:1,22	additional 15:17 17:1 22:10 35:25 40:12 59:19 61:17 77:10 89:4 93:4 96:22 141:4,5 142:18 145:8 157:4,6,7 159:2 187:13,15 189:15 216:3,5 217:8 281:19 297:8	admission 34:15 257:1	advocate 60:10 85:14 99:20 176:20
acclimated 149:23	act 26:3 47:9 52:19 78:3 160:12 166:10 264:11	Address 77:1 122:8 190:22	admit 199:11 236:21	affable 161:9
accolades 48:1	acting 36:14	address 7:4,5 18:3,11 65:2 104:20 186:1 188:14 194:20 236:24 237:14,18 238:7,17,18,23 262:10 265:19 267:10	admits 277:19	affect 282:21
accommodate 256:8	action 36:16,21 45:4 150:17 180:7	additionally 77:1 122:8 190:22	admitted 128:14,16 256:6	affecting 163:21
accommodating 248:4	actions 35:19 157:23 266:17 271:3	address 7:4,5 18:3,11 65:2 104:20 186:1 188:14 194:20 236:24 237:14,18 238:7,17,18,23 262:10 265:19 267:10	adopted 294:24	affidavit 257:22 266:19 271:25 274:20
accordance 144:25	active 214:6,8	addressed 97:7 234:4	adoption 176:3	affidavits 13:24 33:14 58:9 74:18 94:4 138:4 155:19 184:1 213:17 284:18
accountability 252:15,16	actively 34:15	address 7:4,5 18:3,11 65:2 104:20 186:1 188:14 194:20 236:24 237:14,18 238:7,17,18,23 262:10 265:19 267:10	adoptions 157:25	affirmation 174:22
accountant 168:18	activities 48:25 49:1 54:14 213:22	addressed 97:7 234:4	adults 157:22	afford 83:5
accurate 261:13	activity 23:21 49:5,6	addressed 97:7 234:4	advance 22:1 97:11 99:23 111:10	affordable 274:10
accurately 237:18 248:23	actual 25:1 114:21 237:19	addressed 97:7 234:4	advanced 204:14 251:13	afraid 280:7,20,22,23
accusation 195:4 250:3 251:7	activity 23:21 49:5,6	addressed 97:7 234:4	advancing 99:21	afternoon 31:12 136:8 138:19 139:6,7 147:4,5 153:10, 18 177:15,16 181:22 211:6 221:22,24 226:7,8 227:4,5 261:4 270:24 278:19
accused 116:2	actual 25:1 114:21 237:19	addressed 97:7 234:4	advantage 136:4	age 14:16 26:8 34:8 75:24 95:6 116:6,15,24
accustomed 85:8	acumen 27:15 64:2	addressed 97:7 234:4	advent 171:24	
acknowledge 82:5 99:15 105:15 109:25 230:19 244:7 250:5 253:8 273:24	ad 106:5 140:9 142:1 157:20 167:10,20 180:1	addressed 97:7 234:4	adversarial 278:4	
acknowledgmen t 292:6	adaptations 273:1	addressed 97:7 234:4	advice 22:10 98:3 104:3 282:14	
acquiescence 277:4,23	added 219:24	addressed 97:7 234:4	advised 104:7	
acquire 168:12	addictive 284:24	addressed 97:7 234:4	advisement 17:4,8,11 160:12 282:18	
	adding 168:12	addressed 97:7 234:4	advising 85:4,6	

127:15,16 139:16 156:15 186:10 215:3 235:2 273:9 agenda 11:24 72:18 298:14 aggressive 189:24 205:21 208:25 agree 24:24 28:23 45:7 47:18 53:22 84:19 148:7 164:8 agreement 172:13 180:9 291:6 agrees 149:2,4 ahead 91:24 104:4 134:17 147:6 267:8 aided 87:13 Air 142:7 AIS 238:19 akin 43:20 Alice 169:23 alienation 158:18 aligned 165:9 alike 285:15 alimony 158:20	allay 48:24 allaying 105:4 allegation 262:1,18 288:17 allegations 288:3,16 290:17 alleged 210:17 264:4 alleging 119:23 234:15, 16 allowance 256:14 allowed 147:23,25 281:9 allowing 143:20 alluded 54:21 aloud 203:12 alternatives 274:9 amazing 84:15,24 ambitions 251:14 amended 182:22 amendment 57:17,23 93:13 183:11 213:2 255:21 256:2,3 272:11 amendments 182:25 America 269:18 amicably	190:14,15 192:3 amount 42:13 66:1 112:16 201:21 259:18 amplifies 266:22 analyses 158:23 and/or 164:24 165:16 Anderson 8:2,6 Andrea 255:17 Anesthesia 191:21 192:1 anger 208:25 209:20 251:23 283:25 angry 131:16,17 234:17 283:8 animosity 68:7 207:2 animus 271:9 Ann 73:6,11 Anne 169:23 anonymous 28:19 190:2 200:11 233:12 275:18 anonymously 132:1 answering 109:13 answers 40:23 45:12	Anthony 182:9,14 184:8 189:17 anti-women 208:19 anticipate 210:18 anticipated 59:2 anticipating 241:17 anticipation 64:7 anybody's 95:13 anymore 50:15,16,18,23 108:12 125:13 252:9 anytime 118:13 apex 187:4 apologies 148:10 193:17 apologize 184:12 204:12 243:6,10 266:25 apparently 123:17 173:16 263:1 appeal 61:4 appeals 9:8 275:15 appearance 20:10 30:23 38:1 55:10 61:24 72:2 80:9 91:1 100:23 135:11 144:23 145:15 152:20	161:16 181:2 195:17 210:10 220:8 285:25 297:16 appearances 114:11 253:25 appeared 29:4 226:21 appearing 69:25 123:9 169:24 223:14 appears 13:21 33:11 58:7 74:14 93:24 138:2 155:16 160:16 165:9 178:22 183:24 213:15 249:11 257:20 261:13 262:4, 14,20,24 264:3 appellate 29:24 38:8 80:17 101:6 145:23 161:24 195:25 220:16 applaud 90:12,19 170:8 applauds 203:20 applicant 92:5 164:19 184:17,19 254:25 application 13:19 33:10 58:4 74:13 93:22 103:12 137:24 155:13 183:21 213:11 247:24 255:1,6 257:16 274:3
---	--	---	--	---

applied 97:8 255:7	187:17 235:24 238:25 239:8,11 265:18 296:21	arrived 247:9	220:24 221:7 286:11,19	48:11 77:23
apply 49:19 105:6 144:2	areas 18:10 39:15 61:11,14 141:3 157:3 172:21,23 173:2 174:3 187:12 216:2,14	arriving 185:17	assess 89:13	assured 248:7
appointed 27:16 140:15,17 143:19 144:7	arguing 60:12	arrogance 243:2	assessment 148:8	at-large 229:2,3
appointment 208:9	argument 71:6	arrogant 206:20 276:14	asset 29:15 36:8 59:25 169:8 187:2 252:18 267:20 269:3	athletic 149:25
appraiser 268:21	arguments 15:11	article 249:6 250:23 266:5 272:16	assets 168:13,16 169:3	atmosphere 53:11
appreciated 40:13	arise 31:3 35:2 51:8 55:15 77:20 91:7 135:14 152:25 153:1 181:7 210:20 241:19 254:8 297:22,24	articles 33:11 58:6 74:14 93:23 138:1 155:16 183:23 213:14 257:19 265:10	assign 16:16	attacks 251:11,12
appreciation 79:22 84:12,13 106:10	arm 132:22	ascending 84:6	assigned 187:25	attempt 172:13 289:15
approach 15:25	armed 209:13,25	Ashley 138:15	assist 25:17 34:13 76:5,8 77:7 78:20 95:10 139:20 156:19 186:14 189:9 215:7	attempting 21:5 39:1 62:19 81:9 101:23 146:15 162:16 196:17 221:8 286:21 289:21
approached 291:12	Army 142:7	asks 24:11	assistant 150:12 267:2	attended 78:17,19,22
appropriately 52:9 160:12	arose 135:15 273:2	aspect 89:6 102:17,23 235:14	assisted 76:20	attending 20:6 37:22 61:20 80:5 83:12 89:15 100:18 145:11 161:12 195:13 220:4 285:21
approximately 159:19 171:20	array 66:6	aspects 78:21 89:1,16 141:24 142:12 158:13 159:10 188:10 216:22	assisting 122:18,20	attention 15:10 164:3,25 210:18
arbiter 225:22	arrest 264:8,12,23	aspired 187:7	associate 65:14 78:8	attitude 204:15
arbitrarily 274:1	arrested 209:3	Assembly 20:21 21:4 35:10,14 38:22, 25 49:2 62:10, 18 81:5,8 87:12 101:19,22 102:19 106:22 146:6,14 162:7, 15 196:8,16	Associates 192:1	attorney 26:17 60:7 76:25 85:1,17 96:13 98:12 99:20 107:18 115:10 118:6,8, 20 121:12,13 142:21 143:23 150:12 159:5,9
arbitrariness 276:16	arrive 23:16 248:3 251:17 252:11, 12 297:2		assume 237:20	
arbitrary 276:14 278:1			assuming 147:11	
arbitration 170:24			assumption 264:18	
area 18:6 27:20 60:24 63:18 65:18 71:2 142:9 160:1 173:15,20			assure	

165:17,21 166:6 172:12 184:9,11 191:8 192:10 195:1,2,10 198:20 200:15 206:20 219:23 223:2 224:6,15 225:10 226:22 232:4 234:12,18 261:7 264:6,15 267:1 268:3 272:6 273:9 280:18 283:1,8, 10,14,24 attorney's 174:19 283:6, 15,16,18,19,24 attorneys 15:8 59:6 76:21 98:24 103:22 115:8 131:17 141:14 157:1 164:11 173:7 174:9 190:25 191:12,18 205:22 208:22 224:2 265:2 276:21 280:5 283:2,17 284:14 attorneys' 164:24 attribute 173:22 attributes 253:2 August 97:8 236:23 Austin 139:3,5,11 146:22 authority 79:22 83:14	authorized 193:2 authorship 251:6 automatic 272:5 273:20 automatically 7:8 automobile 143:18 144:6 AV 191:8 198:20 avail 87:9 average 276:23 avoid 276:14 award 277:23 awards 134:25 135:3 aware 21:4 22:18 37:7 38:6,25 52:14 62:18 80:14 81:9 101:3,22 135:17 145:20 146:14 159:23 161:21 162:15 166:18 175:13 195:22 196:17 220:13 221:8 233:9 286:21 Awesome 136:23 276:4 awkward 75:2 aye 6:10,11 8:7,8, 14,15,16,19,20, 21,25 9:1,2,9,	12,13,14,24,25 10:1,5,6,11,12, 17,18,19 11:1, 15,16,17 192:23 298:22,23 ayes 6:12 9:14 192:24,25 298:24 <hr/> B <hr/> B.J. 107:17 108:8 121:14 baby 127:14 back 6:19 22:15 24:21 26:9 27:7, 13 31:4 43:25 44:20 47:25 55:16 61:4 72:7 90:15 91:5 97:8 118:17,18 119:18 124:19 135:2,16 148:24 149:16 150:5,21 152:25 153:19 156:23 157:8 173:19 181:8 191:24 193:6,16 199:3 203:18 208:6 210:16,25 215:18 217:22 218:11 224:13 226:23 229:2 230:18 231:24 232:2 233:10, 20,24 234:25 236:1 244:1 245:3 246:20 247:2,14 252:21	254:6,15,23 263:2 264:14,16 265:20 267:15 270:8 291:7 294:24 295:10, 14 297:23 background 79:11 97:25 98:20 112:8 backlog 16:18 43:1 backroom 132:14 bad 50:9,21,22 69:4 123:3 165:14 200:25 203:5 204:3 251:25 294:25 Baker 156:2,4,10 163:2 balance 158:19 165:5 167:7 176:6 271:21 274:25 277:1 balanced 106:2,14 150:16 157:15 balances 83:16 balancing 233:13 ball 134:20 ballot 13:18 15:16,18 28:18 33:9 35:24,25 36:9 47:3 48:9 58:3 59:11,18,20	74:12 77:9,11 82:20 86:2 93:23 96:22,23 99:15 117:8 130:12 137:24 142:18,20 151:19 155:13 159:2,3 177:18 183:20 189:14, 16 197:21 202:9 213:12 217:7,9 221:25 226:13 242:3 253:3 257:17 281:19, 20 287:21 296:2,6 balls 84:22 223:12 bandied 51:18 bandwidth 82:14 bar 23:20 34:16 42:12 43:8,9 64:10 78:19,22 86:1,25 89:23 97:15 104:18 110:15,17,20 114:7 115:4,15 117:23 129:25 131:18 133:3 173:4 176:16 194:7,9,25 197:21 198:14 199:12,17 200:6,13 206:25 207:1 208:24 209:8,15 232:15 238:20 275:8,21 294:14 bar's 110:15
---	--	---	--	--

Barraclough 108:8	85:22 155:23 213:20	60:1,7,9,22 63:13 64:8	178:3,13,25 179:2 187:24	186:16,17 223:4,15 230:21
Barrowclough 107:17 121:14 122:23	beginning 16:9 17:8,21 104:6 250:11 263:6 287:24	66:11 69:5,15 74:10 84:7 93:20 96:18 113:5 130:13 133:8 136:11 137:21 142:22 155:10 157:17 159:13 164:9 169:22 178:12, 25 179:6 180:21 183:18 203:3 204:14,21 213:9 215:14,15,21 216:7,12 217:5, 21 223:17 225:1 226:19 228:24 231:21 232:2 234:7,8,23 237:22 240:15 243:22 246:24 252:4,19 257:14 264:23 265:7 271:16 275:18, 21 279:14 285:17 290:1	194:24 207:1 214:20 216:1 219:9 226:23 229:14,16,18 230:8 236:24 239:4	233:18 279:6 288:15
bars 40:2	behalf 21:4 38:25 62:18,20 81:8, 10 101:22,24 144:10,15 146:14,16 151:13 162:15, 17 196:16,18 221:7,9 286:19, 22		betterment 203:14	bits 111:5
Barton 75:9			bias 60:11 264:6 269:5 273:2 275:4 277:18 284:5	black 49:7 79:1 214:3 223:3 254:14
base 188:4			biased 274:17	Blake 8:18
based 11:22 14:13 22:11 34:4 39:21 42:18 71:15 75:19 95:1 104:24 139:12 156:11 178:20 179:10 186:6 214:24 219:10 250:4	behavior 174:5		bid 109:8	blanketly 292:2
baseline 273:8	bejeebers 173:18		bifurcation 22:7	bless 201:9
basic 275:16	belabor 88:9		big 53:9 113:10,15 237:5	blessed 46:2
basically 77:3 84:21 87:25 104:1,2 108:22 129:13 264:4,14	belief 216:9 268:19		bigger 141:10	blocked 249:5
basis 132:17 202:23 250:3	believer 83:1 85:9		biggest 89:12 116:23 222:14	blood 68:13
bear 127:9 130:2	believes 79:25 100:14 178:17 271:9	benchmark 175:3	bill 192:4	BOARD 192:24
beautifully 30:9 182:1	believing 85:11	beneficial 40:20 215:23	billing 175:1 191:25 192:3	boat 50:7
began 78:7 97:8	belt 59:2	benefit 39:17,18 40:6 142:13 171:4 233:21 252:19	bird 46:4	boat's 50:8
begin 14:3 25:25 33:19 75:14	Belton 107:19 121:13	benefits 65:25	Bishopville 34:17 39:21	body 26:6 35:5 70:25 205:9,22 226:3 258:23 298:15
	bench 13:15 15:20 27:17 29:24 31:21 33:7 35:11 36:8 39:19 45:20 58:1,22 59:3,13	benefitted 66:8,10	bit 124:5 134:23 141:1,24 144:17 148:17 166:23	bold 86:15
		Berkeley 29:5 117:14 165:23 166:5		boldly 266:12
				bolster 86:18 105:3 110:4
				bolts 76:25
				bona

86:18 105:3 178:16 bond 117:3 119:5 border 268:16 boring 23:25 born 173:3 boss 128:5 131:21,22 bothers 83:2 bottle 284:25 bottom 149:12 222:16 bound 38:7 80:15 101:4 145:21 161:22 195:23 220:14 236:7 box 13:18 15:16,18 28:18 33:9 35:24,25 36:9 48:9 58:3 59:11, 18,20 74:12 77:9,11 82:20 86:2 93:23 96:22,23 99:15 117:8 130:12 137:24 142:18, 20 151:19 155:14 159:2,3 177:18 183:20 189:14,16 197:21 202:10 213:12 217:8,9 221:25 226:13 237:2,4,6,7	238:19 242:3 253:3 257:17 281:19,20 287:22 296:2,6 boxes 47:3 boy 53:4 boys 125:8 Brackett 119:3,15,21 120:25 126:21, 22 128:5 130:1 131:10 Brackett's 121:17 123:11 branch 20:3 44:20 83:25 84:1 branches 44:22 brand 127:14 break 22:13 202:1 breaks 111:23 bridge 98:1 265:3 268:8 bridges 40:11 bridging 112:6 127:21 briefing 6:8,14,21 153:15,21 briefly 69:22 87:21 88:9 102:20 141:21 143:21	144:10 188:7 216:19 280:23 briefs 18:14 bright-eyed 99:6 brilliant 54:7 86:23 bring 40:22 53:14 71:20 96:18 106:16 113:6 133:17 180:19 205:16,17 255:4 bringing 10:14 144:9 164:3,24 168:17 brings 68:6 194:2 broached 88:13 broad 34:20 66:6 broader 253:14 273:3 broken 269:25 brother 26:24 138:15 147:19 brought 53:15 143:20 157:25 199:25 234:12 241:3 260:13 264:24 280:15 brush 188:2 bubble 228:6 bucket 10:21	building 78:13 148:5 199:17 249:4 built 143:8 229:8 bulk 40:5 bunch 68:16 burden 54:23 134:5 283:13 burdened 176:7 burn 40:11 business 14:25 37:7 132:10 158:24 168:7 189:5 241:11 248:18 296:12,14 298:14 businesses 158:22 168:15 189:3,10 busy 143:8 217:24 Buxton 149:13 bypassed 266:5 bystander 174:12 <hr/> C <hr/> calculations 171:17 caliber 271:16	California 188:24 call 31:3 55:15 60:6 72:7 83:1 84:22 91:5 127:1,10, 11 135:16 140:13 152:25 166:11 181:8 207:17 210:16 223:12 254:6 264:9 270:4 297:22 called 17:3 50:11 97:23 127:21 264:7 calling 139:23 190:13 calm 36:2 90:1 142:25 165:19 Campsen 44:8,9 83:11 109:22 110:3, 10,13,22,24 111:3,9,12,15, 25 112:10,13, 15,19 Campson 202:11 candid 123:22 179:18 239:16 251:24 candidacy 13:10 20:17 38:13 62:6 80:21 86:12 87:24 101:10 102:17,23 105:7 106:23 127:5 130:3 146:2
---	--	---	--	---

162:3 170:9 196:4 197:25 220:20 286:7 candidate 8:23 9:6 11:10, 24 20:5 21:15 31:14,20 37:22 38:6 39:9 53:24 56:1,3,7 61:20 65:23 70:23 72:19 80:4,15 81:21,22,25 91:21 100:18 101:4 102:7,9 106:1,22 120:4, 10 125:1 135:25 136:3,6,10 145:11,21 146:24,25 153:25 161:11, 22 162:25 163:1 181:18 182:3 185:12 195:12, 23 197:1,2 203:24 204:11 217:11 220:4,14 221:17,18 237:22 247:25 285:21 287:6,7 candidate's 14:14,15 75:20, 22 95:2,4 139:13,14 156:12,13 186:7,8 215:1 candidates 6:24 7:7,20 9:4 28:20 51:16 52:24 63:16 71:3,12,24 72:17 90:24 118:2 123:23 135:9 149:13	152:17 153:23 180:24 202:17 204:7 210:7 212:4 214:25 253:23 258:24 271:13 297:13 Candidly 258:3 259:13 candidness 134:13 candor 103:9 175:22 242:19 Cannon 8:12 Canon 266:13,17 canons 144:21,25 160:23 capability 60:25 capable 96:25 capacities 30:15 55:1 capacity 34:19 35:7,17 36:19 151:2 capital 175:25 captured 169:19 care 60:4,6 77:4 158:2 280:2 285:1 292:22 295:17 career 27:24 54:15 77:22 78:7 82:10,25 85:25	95:12,20 99:1, 14,16 105:23,25 139:25 247:15 careful 281:11 285:2 cares 54:5 217:11 caring 161:9 280:14 284:8 Carl 143:19 Carolina 15:6,24 21:8 27:13 31:10 34:18 38:8 39:4, 20 62:23 65:24 80:16 81:13 101:5 102:2 142:9 145:22 146:19 151:1 161:23 162:20 185:8 188:23 194:7,9 195:24 196:22 210:23 220:15 221:13 254:12 265:10 268:15,16 271:2 272:16 273:4,21 274:10 277:3 280:1 287:1 298:4 Carolina's 275:18 Carolínians 271:19 275:5 carry 106:14 carrying 89:12 case 17:5,6 22:25	28:3 40:9 43:10 60:21 61:6 65:4 67:14,17,22 68:17 70:11 71:8 76:14 78:13 116:6,15, 17,18,20,24 117:1,3 118:19 132:6 144:4 150:11,23 160:18 163:19 168:8 172:16,19 175:1,8,25 176:1,19 177:2 179:13 180:4 181:20 187:22 188:2 189:4 192:2,11,14 207:18 223:4 224:11 225:11, 22 253:7 266:20 271:22 290:18 291:18 caseload 90:14 143:8 cases 15:25 16:8,11 17:12 24:9,10 25:20 34:21,22 36:23 40:3,17, 18 43:24 45:1 51:21 60:17 61:1,4 63:24 65:13 66:6 70:22 76:12,23 78:2 79:5 95:22 103:16 106:3 114:20,21 115:1,2,20,22 117:21 124:3 140:8,10,14,16 141:14 142:1,2, 6,16 144:22	148:2 150:16,20 158:1,3 159:16 164:5 168:8 171:18 172:4,9, 11,15 174:7 175:4,8 180:12 187:18,20,25 188:11,12,15, 17,18,21,25 189:6,10 190:14,15 191:4 204:22 216:24 217:1,3,5 222:19 275:14 282:17 288:3 294:23 Caskey 6:2,3,12,17 8:4, 9,16,21 9:2,9, 14,22 10:1,7,13, 19 11:5,13,17, 21 12:1,9,12,16, 20,23 13:7,13 14:8 21:17 23:11 25:24 28:15 30:13 31:7,13,17,24 32:5,8,12,16,19 33:4,23 39:12 40:25 41:22 44:8 45:13 46:22 47:7 48:5 50:25 51:1,11 53:21 55:19,25 56:5,11,17,20, 24 57:3,6,9,24 58:17 63:6 66:17 69:21 71:19 72:11,16, 22 73:3,9,12,19, 22 74:6 75:6,10, 18 81:24 83:7 85:20 87:15,20
---	---	--	--	---

89:19 91:10,16, 20,24 92:3,5,8, 10,16,19,23 93:2,5,17 94:19 102:11 104:12 105:9 109:21 112:21 121:20 122:2,7 124:13 134:15 135:2, 19,24 136:8,14, 20,23 137:2,6,9, 18 138:17 139:3 147:2 148:9 150:7 151:5,16 152:15 153:4, 10,12,18 154:3, 9,12,16,20,23 155:7 156:2 163:3 170:5 177:13 179:20 180:14 181:12, 17,22 182:2,6, 12,15,19,24 183:2,15 184:12,14,17, 21,23 185:13, 16,20 192:20,25 193:5,16 197:4 210:1,22 211:2, 4,12,18,22,25 212:3,7,11,15, 18 213:6 214:4, 8,15 221:20 226:6 230:14 236:15 246:13 247:8,17,19 248:25 249:23 250:8 251:2 252:8,23 253:20 254:11,17,19,23 255:9,15,18,24 256:2,8,10,14, 17,21,24 257:12	258:10,12,18,21 259:13,24 260:1,5,10 261:16 265:20 267:15 269:22 270:22 275:22, 24 276:1,5,9,11 278:7,9,13 279:5 280:20,22 281:2,4 287:10 293:23 295:19, 25 296:25 298:1,3,11,13, 19,24 Caskey's 41:25 catastrophe 293:15 catch 50:7 categories 7:23 category 7:18 275:7 276:12 caught 218:8 caused 246:25 caustic 54:18 caution 144:25 cautioned 12:7 32:3 56:15 73:7 92:14 136:17 154:7 182:10 211:16 255:13 258:16 cautious 144:20,24	ceased 65:7 cemented 236:4 cents 53:2,8 certified 158:4 171:11 Chair 25:25 69:22 82:2 105:12 150:8 177:14 179:19 221:22 chairman 6:2,12,17 8:4,9, 16,21 9:2,9,14, 22 10:1,7,13,19 11:5,13,17,21 12:1,9,12,16,20, 23 13:7,13 14:8 21:15,17 23:11 25:24 28:15 30:13 31:7,13, 17,24 32:5,8,12, 16,19 33:4,23 34:3 39:7,12 40:25 41:22,25 44:8 45:13 46:22 47:7 48:5 51:1,11,12 53:21 55:19,25 56:5,11,17,20, 24 57:3,6,9,24 58:17 63:4,6,8 66:17 69:21 71:19 72:11,16, 22 73:3,9,12,19, 22 74:6 75:5,6, 10,18 81:16,19, 23,24 85:20 87:15,20,22 89:19 91:10,16, 20,24 92:3,5,8,	10,16,19,23 93:2,5,17 94:19 102:5,9,11 104:12 105:9 109:21 112:21 121:20 122:2,7 124:13 134:15 135:2,19,24 136:8,14,20,23 137:2,6,9,18 138:14,17 139:3,11 147:1, 2 148:9 150:7 151:5,16 152:15 153:4,10,12,18 154:3,9,12,16, 20,23 155:7 156:2,5,10 163:2,3 170:5 177:13 179:20 180:14 181:12, 17,22 182:2,6, 12,15,19,24 183:2,15 184:12,14,17, 21,23 185:13, 16,20 186:5 192:17,20,25 193:5,16 197:3, 4,6 210:1,22 211:2,4,12,18, 22,25 212:3,7, 11,15,18 213:6 214:4,8,15,23 221:19,20 226:6 230:14,15 236:15 246:13 247:8,17,19 248:25 249:23 250:8 251:2 252:8,23 253:20 254:11,17,19,23 255:9,15,18,24	256:2,8,10,14, 17,21,24 257:12 258:10,12,18,21 259:13,24 260:1,5,10 261:16 265:20 267:11,15 269:20,22 270:22 275:22, 24 276:1,5,9,11 278:7,9,13,20 279:5 280:20,22 281:2,4 287:8, 10 293:23 295:19,25 296:25 298:1,3, 11,13,19,24 challenge 294:12,13 challenges 82:13 106:11 challenging 14:24 15:1 42:10 133:15 175:8 chamber 44:19 45:10 53:10 chambers 22:15 68:18 chance 13:8 55:8 68:15 84:3 140:24 204:20 224:7 234:3 238:7 242:23 260:3 262:23 268:12 269:23 278:24 chances 99:18 change 215:24 224:4,
---	---	--	--	---

19,25 226:14 234:24 236:10 259:5 282:13,21 changed 195:8 206:23 207:15 219:8, 11,12,15 235:15,16 243:17 245:3 changing 113:15 channels 132:15 character 19:22,25 37:16 54:6 61:12 64:2 79:18 100:5 134:11 145:7 161:5 193:25 194:16,20 219:19 274:13, 23 275:4 285:11 characteristic 53:7 characterized 243:5 charge 87:10 173:18 295:3 charged 86:9 102:18 164:5 165:4 197:24 252:12 258:23 charges 99:11,12 charging 174:10 Charleston 24:8 25:9 26:25 40:1 42:7 76:11 99:2 109:21	117:14 156:8 173:2,3,15 174:3 185:4,25 186:1,2 207:1 229:22 236:24 239:5 chase 171:3 check 7:12 13:22 58:8 74:16 83:22 93:24 138:3 155:17 183:25 213:16 257:21 checklist 273:17 checks 33:13 83:15 chief 25:8 26:18 103:2 child 45:25 140:8,9 158:4 159:15 188:11,20 child's 158:18 children 149:4 156:25 158:2,16 180:6 185:3,4 188:12 194:2 201:9 215:11,12,18 217:12,14 290:20 294:24 choice 7:9 46:14 choose 75:1 179:24 260:14 chose 42:7 54:18	Christian 14:10 190:4 circuit 10:24 11:11,12 13:10 14:21,22, 23 18:7,13 19:2 24:21 31:20,21 34:13 36:5 42:16,23 43:5,7, 16 45:20 56:8,9 58:22,23 60:1 72:25 76:5 77:2, 13,15 79:9,23 80:2 82:23 86:5 88:7 92:6 95:10, 24 96:8 100:16 107:16,19 112:8 121:14 124:1 128:11 134:6 136:11 139:9,10 153:25 156:6,8 170:16 182:3 185:24 186:3,4 211:8 214:19,21 228:24 235:17 238:2,3,5,15 239:12 255:2 275:12 circuit's 114:1 129:14 circumstance 289:17 circumstances 66:7 129:8 291:2 cite 28:3 266:19 citing 217:17 citizen 273:9 citizens	19:15 37:13 61:8,9,16 79:12 81:18 100:2,8 122:24 145:1 160:25 193:19 197:20 201:4 219:16 271:9 273:4 285:5 city 139:8 150:12 156:6 185:23 186:1 214:19 civic 90:11,18 civil 16:7,22 17:12 27:10,20 34:21 44:3 60:17 65:4 78:5,7,11,13,16, 17,18,21,25 79:3,5,11,24 86:6,7,18 87:6 88:5,17 89:15, 16 97:4,10,11, 16,17 98:2 100:13 102:14, 24 103:2,4,8,9, 13 104:6,18 105:3 110:1,4,6, 16,20,25 111:25 112:3 127:22 179:12 civility 40:12 46:24 47:21 164:3,8, 11,22 165:2 173:9 174:14 190:10 209:6 claim 288:1 claimed 209:20	claiming 277:6 claims 190:3 Clarendon 140:19 clarification 110:7 clarified 219:23 clarify 261:19 262:8, 17,23 263:12 265:6 268:7,12 279:19 class 36:21 78:22 classes 78:20 clause 264:10 266:6 CLE 23:18 86:24 97:14 CLE's 188:5 clear 25:1 37:5 79:21 247:12 251:2 259:11 273:22 283:19 cleared 273:25 clerk 16:23 47:11 64:19 186:20 275:8 clerked 102:25 185:1 186:17 204:23 clerking 95:13
--	--	--	--	---

CLES 23:16,21 78:17 86:22 97:12,13 104:21 111:5,7	220:14 221:13 273:21 274:10 287:1	comment 28:25 36:3,7 83:1 84:4,10 117:7 143:2,6, 12 150:9 152:1 177:19,21 234:6 281:22 284:7,15	commission 6:5 7:5 12:18 13:14 14:10 15:16 20:13,16 21:18 30:20 33:6 34:10 35:23 38:4,12 39:13 41:1 49:1 55:7 57:1,25 59:18 62:2,5 71:24 73:17 74:9,24 77:9,23 80:12,21 81:25 86:9 87:18 91:5 92:25 93:18 96:21 101:1,9 102:12,18 109:4 128:15 137:4,20 142:17 145:18 146:1 147:3 152:4,17 154:18 155:9 159:1 161:19 162:2 163:4 170:6 179:20 180:24 182:21 183:17 189:14 193:13 195:20 196:3 197:24 210:1,7 212:13 213:8 217:7 220:11,19 221:21 222:7,9 248:3,6,21 249:5 251:4,9 253:22 257:13 261:19,21 270:12 275:7 281:18 286:3,6 287:11 293:23 294:11 295:19 297:13 298:25	55:6 62:23 71:23 81:13 90:23 102:2 135:8 146:19 152:16 162:20 180:23 196:21 210:6 221:12 253:21 265:3,25 268:13 271:12 286:25 297:12
client 29:7,11 172:13 176:20 207:20 225:18,23	Cole 9:21,23 10:2	commented 100:9 161:7 243:13		
clients 39:23 85:1,4,6 159:16 173:19 174:8 191:1 208:20 225:12	collaborate 207:21	commenter 90:10		
Clifton 30:3	collar 225:6	comments 15:17,19 16:2,3 17:17 18:19 35:25 36:1 46:23 47:2 48:12 54:2,8 59:19,21 60:14, 15 61:17 77:10, 12,16,17 78:4 82:19 84:9 86:1 87:17 89:22 96:23,24 97:3 98:4 99:15 113:6 142:19,21 159:3,4,17,18 177:17 189:15, 17,22,23 190:22 194:5 201:16 202:22,25 206:8,10 209:17,23 217:9,10,15,16 222:1,2,4,5 233:8 244:9 248:13 253:10 270:9 280:12 281:20,21,25 282:1 284:4,11, 12 287:22 288:2 296:24 298:9		
climate 177:24	colleague 69:15 75:8 131:3 143:24 144:13 222:8 225:2			
cloaked 169:8	colleagues 52:22 89:23 151:5 249:10,24			Commissioners 252:25
clock 260:25	collect 7:16			commitment 55:3 80:1 100:14 156:1 266:18
close 44:13 123:9 125:3 131:18 180:20 212:2 249:10	college 98:24 236:11			commitments 89:9
closer 279:6	colloquy 260:17			committed 97:1 124:8 194:4 203:11 235:18 238:25 288:24
closing 151:16	color 178:20			committee 19:16,19,23 37:14 61:8,10, 16 79:12,15,19 81:18 100:2,9 122:24 145:2,4, 8 160:25 161:6 193:19,22 194:1,5,14 197:20 199:22 200:12 201:4,16 209:12 219:16, 22 278:21 285:5,8,12
clothes 234:18	Columbia 40:4 42:6 78:8 150:21 239:3			common 105:23 172:2 176:1
clue 209:22	comfortable 28:11 37:10 52:3,6 53:3 64:24 69:1 76:13,19 163:15,24			commonly 79:2
code 21:9 38:7 39:5 62:24 80:15 81:14 101:4 102:3 131:23 145:21 146:20 161:22 162:21 195:23 196:22	commands 100:12		commission's 21:8 30:20 39:4	
	commend 26:6 28:16 30:10 251:25 295:1,9			
	commendable 26:23			

communicate 44:4	128:9,10 129:12 130:10 132:20	complicated 67:11 157:18 168:16 172:17 180:3	60:15 63:2 77:17,18,19 78:4,6 81:20 97:3,5,6 98:4,7 99:25 102:6 130:20 146:23 159:18 162:23 178:10 189:22, 23 191:2 196:25 202:15 217:15, 19 221:16 238:23 239:5,6 259:16 265:25 281:25 282:2,7 284:6 287:5	250:4 252:4 271:23 276:15 277:4,7 296:12, 13
communicating 268:23	257:11 260:12 261:9 262:2,3, 18 265:4,19 267:19 268:8 269:21 278:23 279:3 280:8 282:25 294:4, 13,16	complimented 284:13		conducted 81:18 90:6
communication 44:1,6 165:18 267:5		complimenting 281:6		conducting 78:13 224:8
communications 281:9,10		comply 264:8,22 279:15		conducts 277:3
communities 40:2 141:10	complaints 202:6 223:23 247:4 250:6 275:15 280:9,12	comprehend 28:9 71:13		conference 289:23
community 27:6,7 30:9 140:2,24 141:9 148:21 156:22 159:8 178:19 186:23 187:2,3, 10 205:1,5,6,10, 15 249:12,25	complete 103:8	comprehensive 68:4		conferences 97:18 111:21,22
	completed 69:3 290:19	compromising 274:22	conclude 30:17 31:8 55:4, 20 90:21 152:13 210:3 253:17 297:9 298:13	confess 51:5
commute 149:5	completely 109:14 128:23 179:15 209:24 226:24 247:22	concepts 110:6 141:11	concluded 20:8 37:25 61:22 80:7 100:21 145:13 161:14 195:15 220:6 285:23 299:5	confidence 49:4 67:6 69:8, 16,20 125:22 266:19 275:11 282:5
company 189:5	complex 28:10 60:16,21 65:4,13 67:12, 15 70:6,8,9 141:22 158:11, 14 159:14 188:8,11 216:20,25 217:3,5,13	concern 16:3,5 17:20 18:19,22 36:9 60:16,17,18,19 77:20 103:17 105:4 116:23 131:21 135:14 143:2,4 159:22 160:5,8 178:2, 21 190:1,23 194:6 198:13 199:11 201:16 202:14 203:1 204:5 218:17,19 233:13 238:8 251:3 284:3,21 285:1 296:21		confidential 193:9
comparative 158:23				confine 260:1
compared 39:25				conflict 37:1 128:16 132:9 144:18 160:20
compassion 60:13 96:20 97:2 205:10			conclusion 71:20 135:5 185:17	
compassionate 176:11	complexities 16:11		conclusions 48:20	conflicts 13:23 33:13 37:3 58:8 74:17 93:25 130:11 138:3 155:18 160:21 172:4 183:25 213:16 257:21
compelled 109:11	complexity 142:14 168:11	concerned 17:17 19:5 271:9	concrete 189:4	confronted 200:10
competency 281:23	compliance 13:20 33:12 58:5 74:15 137:25 155:14 183:22 213:13 257:18 275:3	concerns 16:2 18:18 21:12 27:14 39:8 48:18,24	condescending 189:25 206:20 285:2	confused 289:7
complained 209:4 279:9			conduct 25:1 38:7 80:16 101:5 145:22 161:23 166:10 195:24 220:15	
complaining 192:13				
complaint				

congratulated 290:21	272:11	contemplating 85:21	contracts 148:1	correct 7:24 18:15
congratulations 134:23	constitutional 19:17 34:7	contemplative 225:25	contractual 70:20	22:20 26:12,20
connected 29:6	37:18 61:14	contempt 262:4 266:6,17	contributed 25:19	28:3,7 36:14,23
connotation 85:10	75:23 79:14	272:5,17 273:20	control 35:2 43:20	63:24 67:19
cons 65:22	117:18 145:3	274:2 277:1,6	113:18,22	73:17 81:17
conscientious 90:1 151:25	194:10 219:20	279:16	177:21 179:7	105:20 124:24
conscious 211:25 277:18	258:25 266:1,2	contentious 172:22	convene 6:3	128:7 136:13
consent 14:15 34:6	271:18 273:12	contested 140:9 141:22	convention 23:20 78:19	148:14,15,19
75:22 95:4	285:7	142:1,5 157:18	87:1	149:15 150:3,14
139:14 156:13	constitutionally 273:7	158:11,14,15	conversant 70:18 71:2	160:19 171:21
186:8 215:1	contact 21:3 38:24	188:8 216:20	conversation 31:4 68:22 99:2	178:5 182:5
consequence 198:11 259:3	47:11 62:17	context 86:4 127:3	171:5 177:5	197:10 211:10
consequences 175:24	81:7 101:21	130:17 132:23	253:5,14 262:24	227:10 298:18
considerate 152:1 226:20	146:13 162:14	291:17	263:7,12	correctly 82:3 103:1
consideration 116:22 203:7	196:15 221:6	continue 6:4 14:21 15:4	convey 59:24	181:25 187:9
266:22	286:18	17:16 18:5 20:2	cooking 166:12,14	204:5 206:16
considerations 115:23	contacted 20:16 38:12	58:23,25 68:8	cooks 125:11	219:14
considered 171:16 178:1	62:5 80:20	72:22 115:14	cool 177:5 222:23	corrupted 119:23
284:2	101:9 146:1	131:14 141:14	Cooper 10:3,8 30:4	corrupting 120:2
consistent 17:25 143:1	162:2 196:3	160:1,2 173:10	coordinating 115:3	corruption 120:3,13
consonant 27:11	220:19 237:15	181:23 228:9	copy 249:14 261:9	cost 189:7
constitutes 277:4	286:6	254:24 279:23	281:11	couched 54:14
Constitution 83:15 265:9	contacting 20:20 38:21	280:2 287:21	core 271:13 272:10	council 27:6,7 33:18
	62:9 81:4	295:2,4	corporation 180:10	counsel 6:25 14:3 26:18
	101:18 146:5	continued 30:10,16 72:13		36:14 40:3,8,19
	162:6 196:7	95:25 194:17		47:1 58:13
	220:23 286:10	298:5		75:14 89:22
	contained 14:13 34:4	continuing 163:22		94:8 138:7,24
	36:11 75:20	continuously 34:16		140:17 141:13
	95:2 96:24	contract 148:23		155:23 184:5
	139:12 142:20			213:19 214:12
	156:11 186:6			263:3,13 271:5
	214:24 217:10			
	281:21			

counseling 242:12	couple 98:4,12,13	17,19,22 164:1, 6,7,16 165:2,5, 15 166:20	courthouse 47:11 63:19	Crawford 7:2,3,19,24 9:6, 17 11:10,20
Counselor 252:2	117:10 121:22	169:7,12,17,20	courtroom 23:5 59:25	33:23,25 34:3
count 130:11	148:13 150:2	170:14 171:12,	63:20,22 64:19	39:7 94:13,20
counted 97:15	243:15,21	21,22 172:1,5, 16 173:11	76:13,15,17	298:18
counterclaim 262:1,5,7,11,15, 19 263:5	258:21 261:6	175:4,7,10,12	77:8 95:19,23	crazy 53:10 175:1
counties 43:5 76:10,11, 22 117:15	287:25	176:4 177:6	96:1 104:5	create 251:5
country 142:4 160:25	courses 277:7	178:7,12,25	122:3 127:24	created 60:4 169:1
173:1 184:9	court 8:23 9:8 10:25	179:1,12 182:4	129:14 160:7,9	179:7 228:6
185:8 188:19,21	11:11 13:11	185:1 186:13,	163:25 164:22	243:10
189:1 193:18	14:21,22,23	18,20 187:14,17	166:3 177:8	creates 296:15
209:12 218:18,	17:5 18:7,8,13,	188:8,10 189:12	179:15 190:17	creative 190:15
23 219:16	23 19:3 23:2	191:6 192:15	218:3 223:9,14	credence 294:16
272:12	31:21 34:13	194:3 195:25	225:20 242:1,4	credit 15:22 60:7 90:2
county 29:5 39:21 42:1, 10,24 43:4 60:8	36:5,18 38:8	202:17 203:24	249:9,18,23	97:15 111:8
68:16 70:5	42:19 47:12	204:23 206:25	250:18 283:16	151:19 285:17
82:12 114:13	56:9 58:22,23	207:1 211:7	285:14 295:18	Creech 204:19 205:2,3
121:12,14	60:1 72:25 76:5	215:6,9,22	courtrooms 76:9,23 96:15	criminal 18:20 19:9,10,
129:10 131:19,	77:13,15 78:25	216:4,20,22	courts 35:18 76:22	11 21:24,25
20 143:18 144:7	79:23 80:2,17	218:6 220:16	88:7 96:7	22:3 25:10
156:8 159:25	82:23 84:14	222:11,13	222:16,18,19	27:18,19 29:1
165:21,22 166:5	86:5 88:4 89:15	223:10,19	256:5	34:21 68:16
178:3,13,25	92:6 95:10	225:11 232:14,	cover 64:14 259:23	70:20,21 77:21
179:2 185:4,25	100:10,16 101:6	15 234:19	263:9	79:21 83:18
187:24 194:24	106:5 112:8	240:23,24	covered 88:14	84:13 86:4,6,8
214:20 216:1	113:21 115:5	241:21 242:9	CPA 168:7	88:4 97:25
219:9 222:10	116:19,22 118:2	249:17 255:2	cracking 258:22	100:10 103:8,25
226:23 227:20,	121:24 123:5,11	260:20 262:24,	craft 90:3	106:3 109:25
21 228:14,16,25	124:1 128:11	25 264:13,24	Craig 46:22,23	112:7 113:13,14
229:7,14,17,18	129:10 136:11	269:12 271:4,6,	Crater 75:18,19 76:2	127:22 131:7
230:8 235:8,9	139:18 140:4,5,	20 275:10,12	81:16 214:15,	167:2,19
	10,12,23 141:5,	279:22,23,25	17,23 221:15	
	8,22,24 145:23	280:17 283:3,21		
	147:24 154:1	285:17 289:19		
	156:18,21	290:12 296:18		
	157:1,2,5,10,13,	court's 174:15 175:12		
	14,17 158:5,7,	courteous 53:12 281:24		
	11,13 159:10,	courtesy 60:13		
	12,19,21 160:4,			
	15 161:9,24			
	163:8,10,13,15,			

criteria 13:17 19:17,20 30:20 33:8 37:15,18 55:7 58:2 71:24 74:11 79:14,16 86:11 90:24 93:21 100:3,7 135:8 137:22 145:3,5 152:16 155:12 161:2,4 180:24 183:19 193:20,23 194:10,15 210:7 213:10 253:22 257:15 259:2 265:25 271:14, 16 273:6 278:6 285:6,9 297:13	current 82:18 177:24 curtailed 277:21 custodial 264:22 custody 140:8,10 142:1 157:19 158:14, 15,16,17,18 159:14 187:20 188:12,16 cut 150:4 185:14 cycle 20:7 37:24 61:22 80:6 100:20 145:13 161:13 195:14 220:5 285:23 cycling 284:19,22,23	56:24 73:15 92:23 137:2 154:16 182:19 212:11 255:22 date 20:25 62:14 80:25 91:12 101:14 134:21 162:11 196:12 221:3 256:7 286:15 dates 256:7 257:1 dating 27:13 daughter 208:10 231:8 236:11 245:23 daughter's 228:11 day 6:4 14:24 16:22 34:25 38:17 41:16 50:20 55:24 72:14 78:18 79:6 91:13 125:10 168:4 175:3 176:3,4 181:15 190:10 191:17 208:8 212:5 224:12 231:18 235:1 242:11 267:3 277:2 297:1 day-in 132:16 day-out 132:17 day-to-day 35:17 76:18 77:4	days 15:1,2 17:6 64:6 114:9 171:15 217:2 224:12 274:25 276:16, 19 277:15 279:17 deadlines 277:5 deadlining 117:16 deal 45:5,6 60:2 106:12 124:2 206:19 dealing 191:18 deals 167:24 dealt 168:19,21,25 dear 88:1 148:7 dearly 46:8 dearth 86:7 death 70:10,22 175:23,25 Debbie 11:11,14,19 Deberry 56:7,10,14,19, 23 57:2,5,8,11 58:15,20 59:18, 21 60:2,8 61:10, 18 63:3,10,14, 25 64:4,21 65:7 66:10,19,21,25 67:10 68:11 69:7,24 71:18	72:10,15 debt 141:13 191:22 debts 274:1 decades 26:7,21 45:16 100:9 deceased 143:25 144:16 168:22 decendent's 143:21 144:10 December 34:18 41:7,8 decide 18:15 37:9 108:5 115:20 decided 88:23 108:20 111:14 112:12 219:9 deciding 46:9 115:19,21 133:1 decision 15:12,13 16:13, 16,24 17:2,7 18:16,24 19:2 28:7 46:11 128:22 134:1 165:7,15 179:10 224:2 248:3 250:4 294:22 decisions 6:21 15:22 16:4, 7 133:24 153:22 193:10 205:11 252:12 282:5, 12,13,20 deck 25:1
criticism 17:15 70:6 102:14 133:12 293:11 critique 70:6 cross- examination 267:21 269:4 cross-examine 206:4 crush 67:24 crux 104:1,3 culture 173:21 curative 19:6 curious 45:16 124:19 128:2 171:13 174:11 204:8	dad 27:5 185:3 Dan 124:22 danger 213:25 Daniel 169:25 214:21 219:2,10 227:9, 12 229:15 236:8 238:17,22 darkened 297:3 Darlington 39:23 data 12:16 32:12	<hr/> D <hr/>		

declaration 227:16 274:6 289:25	105:20,24 107:17 113:4 121:15 130:23 140:17 148:1	defuse 68:14,24	142:24 151:24 159:6 189:24 203:9 281:22	45:21 141:21 158:10 188:7 216:19 247:20
decree 283:11,12	Defender's 77:3 82:7,11	degrade 296:17	demeanors 170:1	describing 189:24 282:1
dedicate 60:20 65:17	defenders 43:21 83:3,19 84:9 98:21,23 106:6,9	degree 272:10 295:4	democracy 83:16	description 22:21
dedicated 82:18 203:13 205:5 248:20	defends 159:16	degrees 28:22	demographical 177:22	descriptions 244:16
dedication 186:24 253:12	defense 67:16 70:21 77:21 78:9 82:19 83:19 95:22 98:12 99:20 107:18 114:7 115:4,9, 15 116:18 117:22,25 121:11,13 131:17,18 133:3 150:20 159:15	delayed 16:3 136:2	demonstrated 79:20	deserved 99:18
Dee 37:13 61:9 145:1	defensive 231:6 245:4,9 250:14,24	deliberate 282:14,22	demonstrates 275:3	deserves 275:5
deeds 275:5	defer 139:2	deliberation 270:14	denial 294:17	deserving 30:24 55:11 72:3 91:3 152:21 181:3 210:11 254:1 297:17
deem 49:1 106:16	deficit 18:12	deliberations 30:25 55:12 72:4 91:4 135:13 152:22 181:4 210:12 254:2 297:19	denied 264:9 265:12 269:5 272:20	
deep 79:21 140:2	deficits 17:17 18:5 103:24	deliberative 23:17 86:18	deny 275:16 279:1,2, 8,9	design 68:9
deepen 87:7	define 29:20 246:9 295:6	deliver 165:16	denying 283:5	designated 88:6
deeper 275:20	definer 245:22 246:2 274:22	delivering 23:19 60:13 267:3	Department 26:19 157:23 187:22	desire 67:25 88:18,19, 25 297:8
deeply 54:5		delivery 68:6	depend 174:14	Dest 130:21,22,25
defend 129:5,6 195:5 251:4 266:11		deluge 16:8	dependent 132:15	destruction 175:2
defendant 271:6 277:21 283:21		demand 88:7 110:18 111:2 174:14 277:10	depending 118:19	detail 29:17 132:2 199:22
defendants 99:10 117:9		demanding 222:12 277:1	depends 53:6 168:10	detailed 126:1 274:19
defended 140:18 158:1		demands 159:11 274:13	depositions 78:13	details 271:25
defender 43:7,8,10,17 77:22 82:24 98:11,15 99:5		demeanor 29:10 60:9	deputy 77:2	determination 10:23 11:5 87:11 122:9 152:6
			Derham 9:21	
			describe	

determining 86:10 114:22	dignity 285:16	discretion 52:8	205:18	157:21 158:3
detractors 204:16	diminish 253:5 296:10	discuss 7:21 158:12	disrespect 205:18,19	doable 201:14
detriment 273:4 275:13	diminished 248:8	188:9 216:21	217:17 243:3	docket 44:5 79:3 96:4,
develop 106:10	dinner 125:11	discussed 7:6	292:21	5,8,10 113:7,13,
developed 16:20 247:11	direct 252:5 260:11	discussing 193:8	disrespectful 285:3	18 114:8,10,15
development 39:16	296:5	discussion 55:16 91:6	disservice 121:24	117:3 140:13,21
DHEC 26:17	direction 65:10	135:17 152:25	distinction 49:23	218:8
dialogue 72:8 254:7	directly 130:9 273:5	181:8	distinguish 48:8	docketing 77:6
dictator 272:15	directness 297:6	discussions 297:23	distinguished 85:25	dockets 217:25 222:13,
difference 244:11	dis-agree 45:8 118:4	disingenuous 251:11	District 98:24	14 275:15
differently 78:3 218:14	143:13	dismiss 99:11 132:6	diverse 184:15	doctor's 208:9
223:20 224:4	disappoint 151:9	262:11	diversity 177:23 178:11,	doctrine 44:12
225:1 241:16	disappointed 251:22	dismissed 160:17 192:2,	23,24 179:5	document 256:19
242:5,6 249:9,	disassociate 132:21	12,15 262:5,6,	divide 158:21 169:18	documents 12:13 32:9
24	discerned 67:18	19	dividing 142:12 168:15	56:20 73:13
difficult 40:18 46:10	disclose 37:9	dismissing 274:20	171:6 187:19	92:20 136:24
60:2,3 68:2	disclosed 281:13	disposition 142:23 143:22	division 141:12 158:21	154:13 182:16
133:24 189:25	disciplined 200:13	191:23 192:7	180:10	212:7,19 255:19
190:2,13 206:19	disclosure 147:15 169:11,	disputes 140:11	divorce 157:20 167:24	261:22
208:16 223:8	15	disqualifies 84:6 266:4	168:20 169:3	dog 122:7
245:25 282:5		273:12	188:25 283:11,	dogs 46:4
294:25		disqualifying 238:2	12	dollar 158:22 180:10
difficulty 16:10 133:15,		disregard 19:2 273:11	divorced 291:7	189:1,5 217:2
18,22		disregards 266:2	divorces 140:8 141:10	dollars 171:14
digest 231:1		disrepute	142:11 187:19	domestic 157:24 184:9,11
dignified 53:12			DJJ	207:10 288:3,25
				289:4
				donations 281:14,15,16

doors 250:21	12:6 32:2 56:14 73:6 92:13		Easily 260:9	effort 50:9 86:18 270:25
doubt 48:6 67:15 87:6 88:8 202:21 203:20 204:6 259:2	136:17 154:6 182:9 211:15 255:12 258:15 Dunbar 254:25 255:3,5, 8,12,17,18,21, 25 256:4,9,13, 16,20,23 257:2 261:8 262:6,10 264:4,14,21 266:23 269:2 271:4,22 272:25 276:20 277:11, 13 278:13,18 279:7,21,22 280:4 281:1,3, 13,18 285:4,5 287:11,14,16,19 288:6,8,18,23 289:2,10,13,22 290:3,6,8,18 291:4,10,16,19, 25 292:11,14, 18,20 293:3,6, 10,13,17,20,22, 25 294:1,9 295:11,15,24 296:23 297:25 298:2,8,12	E	easy 201:14 294:19 295:1 echo 173:10 295:20 economic 13:22 33:13 58:8 74:17 93:24 138:3 155:17 183:25 213:16 257:21 edification 150:9 educate 290:15 education 23:17 Edwin 136:17,22 effect 78:23 117:9 249:15 effective 34:13 76:5 95:10 139:21 156:20 186:15 189:7 215:8 218:16 effectively 124:20 126:2 128:4 130:10 132:8 176:25 177:2 202:24 266:15 efficiency 174:6 efficient 96:7 296:17 efficiently 25:3,5	efforts 23:17 87:13 egregious 272:2 elaborate 186:16 elect 49:2 130:5 elected 27:16 35:8 52:7 70:3 107:21 204:13 205:14 election 9:8 13:24 33:15 41:18 58:10 74:19 87:11 94:5 102:19 138:5 155:19 184:2 213:18 249:5 257:23 282:25 elects 69:10 elements 175:9 elephant 106:17 elevate 152:5 eligible 132:6 elucidate 44:14 email 22:9 embarrass 165:11 205:7 258:5
dozens 48:11 54:8				
draconian 277:15				
draft 266:16,24				
drafted 271:7 272:3				
drawn 50:16				
drinking 173:2 284:18,20				
drive 25:18,19				
driven 180:4 189:18				
driving 125:10				
drug 117:21 118:6,8, 13,20 215:22				
DSS 140:14 157:21 159:16 167:5,19 187:18 290:19				
dually 158:2				
ducking 64:14				
due 264:9 265:8,11 266:6 269:5 271:17 273:2				
duly				
	Dunbar's 259:17 273:18 274:16 275:13 276:15 285:13 dutiful 252:2 duty 144:21 271:12 dynamics 109:6,12	e- 207:24 e-filing 103:15 164:2 e-mail 207:22,25 208:1,4 266:25 283:4 e-mailed 271:14 283:17 Eagle 125:15 134:24 135:3 earlier 65:11 86:13 88:13 124:19 151:22 173:12 175:18 176:24 197:8 203:13 204:22 242:20 246:14 297:1 early 22:4 27:23 40:11 44:9 59:12 65:8 68:15 118:7 125:4 126:7 135:2 earned 54:11 135:2 151:21 ease 56:2 91:20 254:19 easier 43:19 94:16 118:3 easiest 260:18		

emotion 180:4	encouraged 59:11 107:11, 16,20,25	34:24 40:6 43:22 47:2 133:2 200:24	eroding 266:18	33:12 55:9 58:5 72:1 74:15
emotional 85:10 291:6	encourages 164:16	ensure 143:13	erosion 275:20	90:25 94:3 135:10 137:25
emotionally 164:5	encouraging 174:5	ensuring 76:19,20	error 191:25 266:9 282:11	152:19 155:15 183:22 195:5 210:9 213:13 253:24 257:18 297:15
empathy 217:18 243:3	end 7:16 87:15 106:4 128:14 263:9 273:17 274:14 282:19 293:12	entail 76:15	erstwhile 252:8	euphemism 177:23
emphasis 276:13	endears 203:3	enter 270:13,14	essence 128:13	evaluate 52:13,24
employ 115:14	ended 95:18 148:4	entering 256:18	essentially 16:14 264:11	evaluation 258:23
employed 117:15 119:5	endemic 173:20	enterprise 158:23	established 228:25	evaluative 13:17 19:17,20 30:20 33:8 37:15,18 55:7 58:2 71:23 74:11 79:14,16 86:11 90:23 93:21 100:3,7 135:8 137:22 145:2,5 152:16 155:12 161:1,4 180:23 183:19 193:20,23 194:10,15 210:6 213:10 253:22 257:15 259:1 285:6,9 297:12
employee 130:4	endorsers 203:21	entire 99:14 120:19 169:19 187:7 205:16 248:21	estate 143:21 144:1,8, 16 168:24 169:18,19	even-tempered 226:20
employer 128:7 130:7	endorsing 266:15	entitled 84:18	estates 187:19 189:1,2 217:3	evening 83:12 298:7
employers 132:11	enforce 49:19 164:22 169:14	environment 241:2	estimate 199:1 200:21	event 83:12 109:7 210:16,17 226:1 240:14 254:5 265:8,14
employment 78:8	enforceable 273:23	envision 84:24	estoppel 277:5,15	everybody's
empowered 152:9	enforcement 99:9 133:4	episode 242:1 243:7	ethic 54:9 96:19 97:1 143:3,7 150:19, 22	
empowering 54:25	engage 176:12 281:10	episodes 241:4,24	ethical 19:20 37:15 61:11 79:17 89:25 100:4 131:9,23 145:5 161:4 191:11 193:24 194:15, 20 219:18 266:12,23 274:13,19 285:9	
emulate 169:22	engaged 49:4	equipped 49:24	ethics 13:20 30:22	
enacted 49:18	engagement 233:3	equitable 158:21 169:16 277:5 278:4		
enactments 45:7	enjoy 133:6,7 169:24 170:2 181:15 206:24 232:8	equitably 171:6		
encompassed 118:15	enjoyed	equity 222:10 268:5, 11,18,19 269:9		
encounter 60:22		equivalent 7:23		
encountered 66:13				
encourage 177:9 179:16 275:20				

64:13	excellent	exercising	expediency	23 245:12
everyday	70:13 77:12,14	117:9	274:5	285:11 292:7
240:12	142:21 159:12	exhaustive	expense	experienced
everyone's	166:16 172:9	201:21	276:21	120:3,10 159:9
94:11	189:21 281:22	exhibit	experience	166:17 187:2
everything's	exception	13:1,4 32:23	15:4 19:22	189:17 195:3
43:2	256:10	33:1 57:12,15,	21:24 22:23	207:8 208:17
evidence	exceptional	18,21 60:11	27:17,18,19	259:4
19:1 23:3 71:9	54:8 159:5	73:25 74:3 93:8,	29:1 34:11,12,	experiences
120:12,13	excessive	11,14 137:12,15	20,23 37:17	244:8 247:13
179:12 266:21	132:7	155:1,4 183:6,9,	43:13 52:10	251:7
267:21 268:10,	exchange	12 212:22,25	61:13 63:23	experiencing
20 269:4,7,10,	102:15 128:17	213:3 257:3,6,9	66:8 67:23	166:18
11,13,16 277:12	294:5	262:8,12 264:17	70:15,20 71:1,	expert
289:4	excited	267:22 275:6	15 76:4,7 78:5	66:3 168:7
evidentiary	140:3	exhibits	79:18,21,25	189:12 268:21
18:21 19:8	exclusive	264:16 265:5	82:16 86:8,9	269:13
22:11,23 274:2	113:18,22	exist	87:7 95:9 96:17,	expertise
ex-	excuse	247:23 251:9	18 97:4 98:2	187:5,11
264:5	10:22 13:16	296:15	100:5,10,11,13	experts
ex-wife	41:2,10 155:11	existed	102:15 103:25	189:8,9
262:17 263:4	186:18 206:10	236:10	106:14 110:1,5	explain
ex-wife's	208:17 210:14	existent	113:7 120:17,21	97:20,21 143:22
262:3 264:15	238:5 297:5	48:16	123:24 124:6	144:10 163:9
268:3	excuses	exits	125:22 139:20	191:23 192:7
exact	207:12	64:13	140:6,13,23	237:1 245:2
59:15 144:14	executing	expand	141:18,19,21,23	264:25 288:10
249:19	264:10	27:23 200:23	142:6,10,11	explanation
examination	executive	expect	145:7 147:11	195:8 198:15
14:18 33:24	6:7,13,16,19,20	59:13 85:17	156:19 157:1,9	207:13 239:24
58:18 76:1	44:20 153:14,	90:24 124:4	158:10,12	251:20
94:22 137:23	17,20,21	135:9 149:8	159:10,19,20,24	explanatory
139:4 156:3	192:18,21	169:13 208:12	160:3 161:6,7	7:15
185:21 214:16	193:1,4,7,8	226:24 296:13	163:8,10,13	exposed
261:2	200:1 270:13	expectation	178:16 185:11	275:10
examining	exemplary	248:8	186:14 188:5,7,	expound
147:6	20:1	expects	9,16 193:22	265:17
examples	exemplifies	55:7 71:24	194:4,13 200:25	express
164:6	273:3 276:15	152:17 165:2	206:21,24 215:7	16:2 45:17
excel	exercise	180:24 210:7	216:11,13,20,	77:16,17 281:25
96:3	52:8 117:18	253:22 297:13	21,23 219:19,25	expressed
			235:4 243:16,	23:8 60:14 97:3
			22,24 244:6,21,	

143:2 159:17 178:21 189:22, 23 190:22 217:15 extend 104:13 134:19, 23 175:8 240:10 270:3 276:2 extended 30:7 extension 109:9 extensive 79:11 extensively 96:4 extent 39:16 42:11 46:1 extra 170:25 Extraordinaire 252:3 extraordinarily 64:16 extremely 46:7 85:8 157:18 163:19 186:19	208:13 222:15 factor 116:21 factors 15:12 facts 40:15 273:5 fail 103:18 248:22 fails 84:1 failure 262:5 264:8,11, 22 266:10 fair 15:21 17:15 42:12 49:9 50:24 51:1,2 54:5 59:5 60:11 64:1 68:5 77:13, 15,24 78:2 84:21 85:15 99:17,24 132:5 143:1 161:8 165:8 179:9 200:22 201:20 202:5 214:2 217:11 226:21 263:18 281:24 fairly 120:18 128:14 132:2 225:22 250:18,21 285:16 fairness 127:5 275:16 faith 49:7 fall 46:9 falls 271:24	familiar 20:19,22 21:10 26:24 38:20 43:4 62:8 81:3 82:12 86:12 95:13 101:17 126:20 128:17 141:11 146:4 158:22 162:5 173:4 196:6 197:22,25 198:2 220:22 286:9 families 176:2 190:18 271:21 275:13 280:2 294:23 family 27:3,12 37:4,7 65:8 98:19 136:11 139:18 140:4,5,10,23 141:4,8,22,24 144:19 147:24 148:6 154:1 156:17,21 157:1,5,10,13, 14,16 158:5,7, 11,13 159:9,10, 12,14,19,21 160:1,4,22 161:8 163:8,10, 13,15,17,19,22 164:1,6,7 165:5, 15 166:20 167:4 169:7,12,17,20 170:13 171:11, 21,22,25 172:5, 16 173:11 175:4,10 176:4 177:6 178:6,12, 24 179:1,11 182:4 184:10,25 185:1,2 186:12,	18,20 187:14,17 188:8,10 189:18 194:3 202:17 203:24 204:12, 23 206:25 207:1,9,10 211:7 215:5,9 216:4,20,22 223:19 228:9 232:14,15 238:11 240:23, 24 241:21 242:9 255:2 271:6,20 279:22,23,25 281:16,17 285:17 289:19 fantastic 23:23 86:23 87:2 208:24 fantasy 51:5 fate 158:19 father 127:18 194:2 201:7 229:8 274:25 284:16 fathers 140:8 fathom 191:5 288:23 fault 122:4,13 199:5 283:15 favor 6:9 8:7,10,13, 18,24 9:11,15, 23 10:2,4,7,10, 13,16,20,25 11:8,14,18 192:22 298:21	favorable 172:14 favorably 88:15 favoritism 274:4 federal 36:18 160:15 fee 294:21 feedback 86:1,2 89:21 151:18 280:6,11 296:1 feel 14:24 15:5 45:11 48:12 50:9,22 53:3 59:3 60:24 64:23 68:13,25 76:3,7 95:8 99:13 120:17,18 139:19 141:17 150:15 156:18 160:3 163:16,24 186:13 188:4 215:6 218:5 219:12 226:12, 15 227:2 239:24 240:3 243:25 244:11 245:2 248:7 250:25 251:21 276:11 283:2 284:11 291:21 296:20 feelings 246:25 feels 53:6 84:5 284:9 fees 174:19 265:2 272:7 276:17,21
<hr/> F <hr/>				
fabric 272:12 face 96:9 206:2 faces 74:22 fact 26:17 46:8 84:15 178:2 185:6 204:3				

283:2,6,8,15,16, 18,19,24	filing 128:9,10 130:10 175:13 237:12, 13,16,17 276:25	fine 45:16 80:2 88:2 100:16 128:4 138:8 211:23 233:2 294:21	Florence 40:4 65:3 149:25	141:20 152:17 160:23 180:25 205:8 210:8
fellow 69:13 191:12,18	final 11:10 114:8 229:14 262:9 264:17,20 265:1	finest 59:22	Florida 267:18,20,25 268:14 269:3	253:23 272:18 297:14
felt 37:6,10 109:11 125:21 185:16 218:2	finalized 114:16	finite 168:13	flouts 266:17	fond 129:17
female 134:7 206:21	finalizing 114:17,20	fire 68:3	flown 142:3	fondly 170:18
females 288:4	finally 36:6 130:7 134:6 159:13	firearm 234:2,7,8,22	flush 24:12 52:15	foot 94:17 249:4
fewer 7:6 9:4	finances 273:25	firm 29:9 34:19 50:22 78:8 99:22 103:8 143:8 147:22 148:6 192:6	focus 61:5 69:17 88:25 122:9 144:17 272:1	Force 142:7
fides 86:19 105:3 178:16	financial 141:23 142:12 158:13,19 168:11 169:11 188:10,13 189:8 193:9 216:22,25 217:1,5 227:16 274:6,15 283:11,13,22	firms 230:5	focused 13:17 33:8 58:2 74:11 93:20 137:22 155:11 183:19 213:10 257:15	forces 209:13,25
field 50:20 65:15 66:3 269:15 272:21	find 8:16 35:4 89:24 134:9 148:4 152:9 166:9 172:5 190:14 198:14 232:8, 16,17 236:21	firsthand 150:22	foe 203:4	forensic 168:18
fighting 174:16	finding 90:14 136:4 175:7 189:6 247:5	Firstly 82:5 105:15	focuses 217:14	foresee 176:6
figure 21:22 127:18 246:20 291:14	findings 273:20 277:14	fit 246:21	foe 203:4	Forest 150:13
figured 64:5	finds 35:5 262:14	fitness 19:21 37:15 61:11 79:17 100:4 145:6 161:4 193:24 194:15,20 219:18 266:4,12 273:13 285:10	folks 23:15 36:18 42:5 48:1,23 64:18,19 66:4 70:24 88:2 122:14 138:9 173:14 193:2 206:5,8 222:3 240:11 243:13 248:1 253:11 292:25 294:25	forever 52:17 289:17
file 112:12 144:1 237:21		flags 72:18	follow 30:21 51:14 55:8 67:25 71:25 90:24 131:24 135:9	forfeitures 103:14
filed 13:24 33:14 58:9 74:18 94:4 120:9 132:21 138:4 143:17 144:5 155:19 175:6 184:1 191:21 192:5,9 213:17 236:22 257:22 262:2		flat 209:19		forget 83:18,20 225:9 231:22
		flexibility 236:12		forgive 29:3 41:3 88:13 170:10 206:18
				forgiveness 248:5
				forgot 217:24 256:4
				form 238:21 242:12
				formal 31:2 55:14 72:5 135:15 152:23 181:6 210:14

254:4 297:20	founded	84:20 92:20	funny	179:9 249:6
formative	272:12	103:22 117:19	67:5	250:4
135:4	founders	132:16 136:24	future	general
fortunate	27:7	154:13 166:16	51:5 52:18	20:20 21:4 29:5
65:12 122:18	fourth	169:24 170:3	169:3 231:7	34:18 35:9,14
140:5 141:7,17	56:19 274:11	182:16 190:9	248:9 250:13	38:21,25 42:9,
142:14 166:15	frankly	191:16 205:20	264:12 265:8,14	13,19 44:2 49:2
forum	70:12 123:16	212:8 218:3	266:6,17 272:6	62:9,18 65:6,25
151:12	222:24	240:3 255:19	273:20 276:18	66:5 81:4,8
forward	fraught	259:25 261:11	279:13,18	87:12 88:6,17
14:6 18:5 48:16	173:15 175:23	263:14		101:18,22
50:20 164:20	free	fronts	G	102:19 106:4,22
260:13 296:14,	259:15	236:22		129:14 146:5,14
22	freedom	frustration	gain	147:8 162:6,15
foster	147:25	296:16	35:21 141:19	172:2 175:25
40:20 158:2	freely	frustrations	game	196:7,16 220:23
185:20,22 186:5	95:15	247:1	171:5 206:15	221:7 286:10,19
192:17 193:14,	frequently	fulfill	games	290:16
17,18 194:17	163:14	215:20	150:3	generally
196:24	freshman	fulfilled	gamut	7:4 18:15 86:1
fosters	236:11	48:3 264:25	188:15	171:17 253:1
278:4	friend	full	ganged	generating
found	75:8 125:3	12:10 32:6	207:3	225:14
7:7 19:16,19	126:2 175:21	50:25 56:18	gap	generic
38:7 60:8 61:10	189:19 203:3	73:10 92:16	98:1 112:6	296:5
79:16 80:16	205:4,6 213:24	110:17 111:18	127:21 268:8	gentleman
100:6 101:5	friendly	129:8 136:20	295:6	143:25 213:21
104:9 122:19	134:8	147:15 154:10	gaps	294:7
145:2,4,22	friends	169:11,15	265:3	gentlemen
161:1,23	50:11 108:9	182:13 211:19	Gary	6:2,17 31:17
193:19,22	295:7	255:16 258:19	12:11	56:5 193:5
194:7,9,14,19,	friendship	259:15 261:21	gatekeeper	geography
24 195:9,24	37:7 125:5,24	full-time	18:24 19:4	235:1,3
198:12 200:7,9	friendships	111:4 117:13	gauge	get along
201:6 219:7	133:8	186:20 215:15	275:9	173:17
220:15 222:22,	frivolous	fully	gave	gift
24 232:11	174:17 175:13	148:20	118:16 148:3	68:8 231:24,25
239:17 246:18	front	fundamental	224:1 283:23	232:1
248:15 274:1	12:13 32:9	273:16	gears	gist
285:5,8	56:21 60:8	funded	234:24	223:6
foundation	73:13 78:1	219:8	gender	give
78:11			178:12,20,24	13:7 28:6 33:4

34:10 57:9 74:6, 23 78:10 84:3 90:15 93:17 99:17 137:18 155:7 156:23 183:15 198:16 200:22 213:6 238:7 248:2 249:20 256:6,7, 21 259:15,21 262:22 265:16 267:10 268:12 269:23 282:18	64:9 66:19,21 69:4,22,24 72:22 89:24 91:24 94:24,25 103:19 104:17 105:12,14 110:11 112:16, 23,24 116:11 119:11 122:21 125:13,18 126:16 133:2 135:4 136:8 139:6,7 141:18 142:10 143:7 147:4,5 149:13 150:15 151:13 153:18 158:23, 24 159:11 161:7 177:14,16 181:22 184:23 185:12 187:4 194:3 195:7 197:7 199:23 203:5,10 204:3, 4 206:25 211:5 219:25 221:22, 24 225:17 226:7,8,16 227:4,5 230:20 241:9 243:21 260:7 261:4,5 270:24 274:11 278:19 287:15, 16 294:25 295:16	grade 231:8 grandparent 157:19 granted 178:13 223:9 grapple 70:8 grasped 35:13 grateful 94:10 259:14 great 13:8 19:24 22:10 29:15 43:11,12 45:5 53:18 55:24 67:1 71:21 77:14,16 78:11 94:19 103:21 132:2 138:17 152:2,3,6 153:7, 10 187:2 203:9 241:16 281:7 292:24 greater 105:5 greatest 127:9 Greeley 107:18 121:11 Greeley's 123:8 Greenville 40:1 42:6 165:22 227:19, 20 228:15,20 Greenville's 275:12 grew 43:6 45:24 173:4 227:22	238:10 grievance 191:7 Griffith 129:16 ground 237:24 grounds 213:23 group 47:23 132:24 150:9 204:9 groups 90:11 grow 127:23 216:10, 15,17 growing 216:18 grown 247:11 grows 275:14 growth 104:21 248:7 grudge 127:9 128:24,25 grudges 244:13 guardian 140:9 142:1 157:20 167:10, 12,20 180:1 guess 26:7 36:15 64:15 66:9 70:6, 23 98:10 103:2 134:16 168:23 172:3 174:7,22 175:9 176:14 178:23 223:17 225:6 229:13	266:23 294:14 guide 160:24 guidelines 21:8 39:4 62:23 81:13 102:2 146:19 162:20 196:21 221:12 286:25 guilty 29:7 84:16,20 272:13 guru 88:7 guy 190:15 guys 266:24 274:12 guys' 270:25
giving 74:20 83:14 132:8 138:7 207:13 233:20 249:19 277:25 283:18 294:16 glad 33:21 75:10 149:16,23 150:5,25 214:8 225:23 292:11 gleaned 42:17 goal 98:15 130:4 172:11 200:17 goals 99:4 God 201:9 Golden 190:5 good 6:2 15:5 18:12 21:20 25:9 26:3, 4 34:1,2,23 41:23,24 54:19 55:25 58:20,21 59:8 63:8,10	government 70:4 83:8,23,24 84:1 90:17 grace 240:11 276:10 graciousness 285:13			<hr/> H <hr/>
				Habitat 90:11,19 habits 274:14,18 half 23:25 24:1 117:13 129:9 175:19 184:11 201:20 216:16 218:21 267:13 Hall 104:2,6 108:17 112:4 121:15 124:22 126:25 127:10,13 128:1,25 129:2 130:7,11 Hall's 126:17

hallelujah 170:19	hands 169:9	46:14 53:23 60:20 85:1	heads 25:16	hearing 31:8 37:10
hallway 190:16	handwrites 264:21	89:18 103:23 117:24 186:24	health 19:18 37:19	70:11 91:6
hand 8:7,13,19,24 9:12,23 10:4,10, 17 11:1,2,15 12:3 31:25 56:12 61:6 73:4 92:11 136:15 154:4 182:7 191:14 211:13 255:10 258:13	hang 7:13 158:19 271:21	204:24 205:11, 14 249:14 282:13 291:13	61:15 79:15 100:8 145:4 161:3 193:21 194:11 219:21 232:20 285:7	118:14,15,17 147:7 199:17 201:22,23 224:13,22 244:18 246:16 254:21 259:16 266:7 269:12 272:8 273:19 283:3,9 284:16 291:20 294:16 298:14
hand- 267:2	happen 17:1 115:7 116:10 138:12 166:13 176:15, 17 248:9	hard-working 203:11	healthy 176:6 200:22	hearings 6:4 11:22 20:7, 8,9 37:24,25 38:1 61:21,22, 23 80:6,7,8 100:20,21,22 118:9 119:5 145:12,13,14 161:13,14,15 175:18 195:14, 15,16 220:5,6,7 223:22,24 224:8,18 242:8, 10 274:20 282:16 285:22, 23,24 299:2,4
hand-delivered 272:24 277:25	happened 49:12 97:22 231:5,8,10,25 232:3,4 234:5, 15,20 245:5,9 248:7 250:12 263:7	hardened 247:12	hear 15:14 17:6 33:17 69:18 75:12 94:7,19 117:7 119:12 138:23 143:11 144:21 155:22 160:10 163:14 175:17 184:4,13 190:20 199:7 206:1 211:20,22 214:10 217:22 223:7 225:24 230:21 240:8 242:9 270:22 291:23 292:4	
hand-in-hand 96:6	happening 115:7 165:6 189:10 208:1 224:9	harder 296:24	heard 24:19 47:19 66:13 87:1 124:15 151:22 163:16,17,24 166:13,18 168:5 176:24 206:22 218:1,6,10 223:1 224:7 234:2,9,14 241:13 242:24 244:10,18 246:22 247:8,20 260:3 264:13 269:8 272:8 276:11 278:24	
handedness 29:2	happier 67:2	hardest 292:21		heart 143:9,12 177:1 284:8 291:24 293:5
handle 16:20 37:1 60:16 79:4 89:3 102:20 141:5 144:18 157:6 160:20 187:14 192:18 204:24, 25 216:5 223:22 224:18	happiest 176:3,4	hardworking 124:7 151:25		heavy 30:24 55:11 72:3 91:3 135:12 152:21 181:3 210:11 297:18
handled 60:4 70:13,22 112:6 157:17, 18,23 158:1,3, 15,20 187:18,21 188:25 204:21 216:25 289:20	happily 30:7 204:17	harkening 124:19		heavyweight 254:1
handling 106:3 141:21 158:11 168:14 188:8 216:20,23	happy 14:2 33:17 42:25 58:12 75:12 94:7 138:23 155:22 170:20 184:4 188:3,6,14 214:9,10 270:22 282:12	Harry 56:14,19 130:21,22,25		
	harass 165:11	hasty 274:17		
	hard 36:3 45:21	hat 29:22 240:23		
		hate 160:10 244:5, 21,24 245:13		
		HBO 170:25		
		head 104:4 174:21 240:18		
		headed 24:9 102:22 270:7,17		
		headline 249:3		
		headlining 26:2		

height 184:17,19	highest 29:14 191:10,11 202:22 203:23, 25 225:5 271:15 272:10	honest 59:14 83:9,24 116:8 231:5 238:21 240:4,25 241:6 247:22	87:20 124:14 197:5	140:23
heights 212:3	highlighted 172:22	honestly 51:6 113:25 149:9 239:13 289:19 295:17	horse 175:1	humbling 143:11
held 6:16 153:17 193:4 231:7 250:13 279:15	highly 64:20 130:12,13 140:9 141:25 151:9 165:4 222:3	honoring 89:15	Horton 92:13,18	humbly 23:13 105:2
helped 45:17 68:24 98:23 158:21 232:5	Hinson 260:11,25 261:3,7 269:20, 22 278:15,17 287:4	honor 190:10 205:16, 17 222:25 223:18 266:10 278:22	hostile 278:2	humiliate 165:10
helper 252:2	hire 83:5 224:15	honorably 186:23 205:1	hot 207:25	humiliating 165:1
helpful 24:17 25:13,14, 22 35:12 94:14 113:7 164:3 251:20	history 23:25 54:25 128:18 239:19	hook 65:2	hotly 142:4	humility 187:11
helping 14:25	hit 122:7 185:16 231:13	hope 22:16 35:6 54:20 59:8,16 64:22 99:14,24 149:2 151:2 153:7 164:12 176:9 181:15 185:10 200:17 202:5 203:6 204:4,20 232:25 239:6 241:2 254:14 260:17	hour 23:25 106:24 200:20 201:20	hundreds 90:14
helps 24:15 45:10 125:11 172:6,7 215:24 232:10 240:16	hold 244:13 260:5 262:3 271:15	hoped 34:25 35:4	hour-long 110:19	husband 108:14 121:8 170:18 214:2
hesitate 104:10	holding 223:8 283:6	Horry 60:8 68:16	hours 171:15 208:7,14	hybrid 113:23 114:4,12 115:11
Hewitt 8:18,22	holler 122:7		house 41:4,6 53:9 132:12,13 148:23 213:23 228:15 281:15	hypothetical 265:8,14 272:6
hey 108:25 207:19 208:5 231:18 244:1	home 24:20,21 30:8 42:7 125:10,20 135:22 153:6 166:12,14 210:25 227:9,14 228:13 236:6 254:15		housekeeping 20:4 37:20 61:18 80:3 100:16 145:9 161:10 195:11 219:25 285:18	<hr/> I <hr/>
hide 15:3 169:3	homework 22:21 125:11		Hucks 192:7	ice 129:13
high 64:16 67:15 68:20 85:7 89:25 141:9 225:23			huge 242:8	idea 16:12 139:23 144:23 270:1
			human 23:25 240:10	ideal 28:3
			Humanity 90:12,19	idealistic 99:6
			humble 15:21	ideals 29:14
			humbled	ideas 42:17,21
				IDENTIFICATI ON 13:2,5 32:24 33:2 57:13,16, 19,22 74:1,4

93:9,12,15 137:13,16 155:2,5 183:7, 10,13 212:23 213:1,4 257:4,7, 10 identified 23:15 94:2 247:2 identifying 24:16 ignore 28:24 75:1 ignoring 272:25 274:2 III 8:6 32:7 182:14 ill 130:2 imagine 25:12 47:24 113:16 187:16 198:17 241:2, 19,21 immediately 22:15 248:14 immensely 34:24 immigration 78:9 impact 29:21 35:10 44:10 45:21 133:19 impart 95:15 impartial 49:8 77:13,15, 18,25 78:2 84:21 85:15 99:24 275:4 277:16,17	impartiality 274:22 impatient 276:14 278:3 impeccable 54:6 Impeding 278:5 implemented 43:17 50:19 implication 250:2 implies 249:5 imply 243:8 import 29:21 importance 46:25 83:15 86:21 173:9 282:20 important 44:3 52:12,14, 20 53:1 87:3 89:5,6 106:1 108:16 115:23 160:11 163:18, 19 169:12 178:14 189:7 194:2 237:12,13 253:6 295:23 importantly 67:20 280:1 imposed 274:8 impress 89:21 impressed 23:2 25:7 87:23, 24	impression 143:10 160:11 243:10 impressions 113:23 impressive 134:10 improper 19:7 262:7,19, 21 improprietary 266:18 impropriety 30:23 55:10 72:2 91:2 135:11 144:23 152:20 181:2 210:10 253:25 297:16 improve 21:23 89:14 156:25 163:8,23 164:7 240:12 280:13 improved 89:14 273:24 improvement 23:14 42:21 43:22 163:11 improvements 17:18 improving 163:13 in-person 111:7 inappropriate 166:9 incarnation 107:3 incentives 247:23	incivility 164:15,16 173:16 include 77:5 158:15 266:24 included 13:18 14:14 33:9 34:5 58:3 74:12 75:21 93:21 95:3 137:23 139:13 155:12 156:12 183:20 186:7 213:11 214:25 257:16 includes 20:5 37:21 61:19 80:4 100:17 145:10 161:11 195:12 220:3 285:20 including 12:24 20:19 32:20 38:20 57:7 62:8 73:23 81:3 90:11 93:6 101:17 114:25 115:2 137:10 146:4 147:24 154:24 159:14 162:5 183:3 196:6 220:22 272:19 286:9 inclusion 74:7 inclusions 207:3 income 273:25 inconsequential 102:16	inconsistent 251:7 282:4,23 284:2 incorporated 21:13 39:10 63:3 81:21 102:8 146:24 162:25 197:1 221:17 287:7 increased 273:25 incredible 217:12 incredibly 14:23 25:14,21 36:7 42:2 54:7 87:2 151:24 incumbent 233:24 indelible 82:16 independence 132:10 independent 52:19 132:14,19 133:10 independently 52:8 indicating 297:8 indication 47:12 64:9 indigent 82:19 150:20 indirectly 130:10 individual 10:23 89:24 178:22 236:4 292:22 295:18 individually 7:25
---	---	--	--	---

individuals 54:24 83:4 178:17 291:4	innocent 84:17 272:13	intended 223:11	internet 54:16	13:14 33:6 57:25 74:9
indulging 292:9	input 114:6 115:4 275:8	intent 20:15,23 38:11, 15 62:4,12 80:20,23 101:8, 12 145:25 146:8 162:1,9 196:2, 10 220:18 221:1 286:5,13	interplay 44:22	93:19 137:20 155:9 183:17 213:8 257:13
inefficiencies 16:3	inquiry 13:16 33:7 58:1 74:10 93:20 137:21 155:11 183:18 213:9 257:14 275:20	intentions 132:4	interrupt 121:20,25 198:24 260:17, 23 280:23	investigation 13:16 21:12 39:9 63:2 81:20 102:6 142:4 146:23 155:10 162:24 196:25 221:16 285:15 287:6
inflection 247:10	inside 96:9	interact 76:18	interrupted 122:6	invite 197:19 270:8
influence 120:2	inspirational 134:10	interaction 35:18	intervene 21:5 62:19 81:9 101:23 146:15 162:16 196:17 221:8 286:21	invited 290:24
influences 266:15	installments 274:8	interest 13:23 29:11 33:14 37:2,3 58:8 74:17 93:25 130:3 138:4 144:18 155:18 160:20, 21 180:6 183:25 213:16 217:14 251:4 257:21	interview 199:13 200:6,19 201:18 209:9,15	invoke 126:16
information 18:9 20:12 28:2, 6 38:3 54:23 62:1 80:11 100:25 104:8 145:17 161:18 195:19 220:10 286:2	instances 190:24 266:20 272:1 288:1	interested 39:17 42:9 116:14 173:5 203:16	interviews 197:21	involve 158:3,16 289:25
informed 15:20 104:5	institute 215:25	interesting 18:6 35:20 104:17 147:23	intimately 82:12	involved 36:23 67:14,15 116:19 120:1,6 128:21 131:11 141:25 143:16 158:3 191:20 192:11 260:19
infused 48:25	institutions 90:18	Interestedly 209:7	intolerance 274:21	involvement 115:15
inherent 247:14	instruction 19:6	interfering 40:23	intriguing 107:7	involves 85:6 262:1
inheritance 228:11	insulted 208:13	international 187:20 188:18	introduce 74:24 75:4 108:22,24 138:11 213:23	involving 36:12 37:2 144:19 160:21 191:22
inherited 227:23 229:8	integrity 52:4,6,11 53:4 97:2 271:10 275:6		introduction 163:7	Inzerillo 72:24 73:2,6,11, 12,18,21,24 75:4,7,8,11,15, 22 76:3 77:9 79:13,20,24
initial 7:12 16:17,24	intellect 52:25		introductions 74:25	
initially 14:9 231:25	intellectual 53:13		introductory 44:9	
injustice 272:14	intelligent 19:25 36:7 54:9 96:25		invaluable 43:13 82:17	
injustices 271:7			investigated	
inking 275:16				

80:14,19 82:2,4, 8 83:21 84:8 85:20 87:14 88:11,17,23 89:19 91:9,14, 17,19 100:12	itemized 283:7	January 23:20 26:2 41:10,11,12,15, 17 50:1 78:19, 24 86:25 218:24 219:1,6 236:9, 13	jobs 89:9 245:24	13:8,11,12 14:4, 12,15,20,22
Island 214:21 219:2,10 227:9,12 229:16 236:9 238:17,22	J	Jay 8:23 9:3	Jody 214:3	15:7,16,19,21, 23 19:3,14,16, 24 20:15 21:13, 18,20,21 22:1, 24 23:6,9,11
issue 16:7 18:1 22:2,7 31:3 51:18 60:12,25 61:4 67:12,20 68:8 70:8 113:11,15 142:5 160:11 164:4 168:19 217:16 218:17 234:17 237:8,9 240:7 284:17 292:3	Jacobs 46:19	jaywalking 43:11	Joel 170:22	24:4,6,8,14,24 25:4,8,11,14,16, 18 26:3,4,10,12, 14,20 27:1,4,9, 21,25 28:2,6,8, 14,16,21 29:18 30:1,5,12,13 31:6,11 34:14 36:2,5 41:2,3,8, 11,13,20 45:20 53:6,17,18 56:7, 9,10,19,23 57:2, 5,8,11 58:15,20, 24 59:18,21
issued 68:4 262:16 279:15 282:3	Jacobson 153:24 154:2,6, 11,12,15,19,22, 25 155:25 156:5,14,17 157:3 159:1,8 160:5,14 161:1, 21 163:6,12 164:10,18,23 165:13,24 166:2,8,11,15, 25 167:3,6,9,13, 16,22 168:2,10, 21 169:4,11,18, 23 170:12,15, 20,23 171:2,10, 16,22 172:8,25 173:3,25 174:18 175:3 176:10 177:6,15,16 178:8 179:1,21 180:1,18 181:11,16	Jennings 34:17	John 8:12 10:24 11:9 67:16	60:2,8,11 61:10, 18 63:3,9,10,14, 21,25 64:3,4,7, 8,21 65:7 66:10, 16,18,19,21,25 67:3,10 68:11 69:7,23,24 70:16 71:7,9,10, 18,19 72:10,15, 16 76:6 77:8,13, 15,23 79:2,6,9, 10,23 80:2 82:23 84:21
issues 19:8 20:4 22:12, 17,23 24:12,16, 18 25:8 37:20 61:18 70:7,12 78:18 79:3,4 80:3 100:17 145:9 161:10 168:11 188:13, 24 195:11 217:13,17 219:23 220:1 232:6 233:5 235:7 253:14 259:4	JAG 26:11,16	jerk 240:21	joined 134:6	85:14,19 86:15, 23 87:1 88:24 89:1,2,14 95:11, 13,14 98:2 99:22 100:16 102:25 103:20, 21 104:2,6 108:17 109:8 111:20 112:4,8
issuing 265:7	jail 116:2,5,12,13, 25 117:1,5 276:16,19 277:10,15,24 294:20	Jersey 185:7	joining 91:17	
	Jailing 274:24	Jimmy 261:7	joke 67:4	
	Jake 45:15	JMSC 20:4 37:20 61:19 80:3 100:17 145:9 161:10 180:3,8 195:11 220:3 251:5 285:20	Jones 143:19 144:8	
		job 23:4,23 24:10 25:10 49:19 53:18 67:1 78:10 82:13 83:9,23 84:11 85:2,3,8,14 87:2 89:4 175:23 185:9 201:11 204:8,25 205:25 217:24 222:21 225:17 230:20 240:22,23 241:3 245:25 252:18 276:6 292:17 294:19	Jordan 6:7 63:7,8,11,15 64:1,11 65:1,21 66:16 148:9,11, 13,16,20 149:11,16,18, 21,23 150:4 192:20 230:14, 15,18 233:2,7, 17 234:5,9,13, 21,24 235:20 236:14	
			Joseph 9:21 282:15	
			journalists 248:20	
			Jr 10:4	
			judge 8:2,16,22 9:15, 20,22 10:2,8,14, 21,25 12:1,4,11, 12,15,19,22,25	

114:3,8,16,19, 24 115:10,14, 24,25 116:14,23 117:19,22 120:24 121:15, 16 123:25 126:17,25 127:10,13,25 128:11,25 129:2,3,4,5,13, 16 130:7,11 132:11 133:19 139:19,21 140:4 141:5 142:23 149:13 156:18, 20,21 157:5 158:8 159:6,12, 21 160:4 164:14,21 165:9,12 166:4, 10,21 169:20, 23,25 173:11, 18,20 175:10 176:4,5,24 177:6 179:12 185:1 186:13, 15,18,20,21 187:1,6,14 189:21 202:17 203:24 204:19, 23 205:3,12 215:6,8,9 216:4 222:8,9,11,25 223:5,19 226:25 232:18 236:16, 20 238:9 241:18,21 244:25 249:5 254:25 255:3,5, 18 258:1 259:17 260:15 262:10 263:15 264:4, 14,21 266:2,23	267:3 269:2,4 270:8 271:22 272:24 273:15, 17 274:12,16,24 275:13 276:15, 19 277:11,13,22 278:13,18,23 279:5,21,24,25 280:4,14,15,20, 22 281:8,13,18 282:8 284:3 285:4,5,12,17 287:11,13,14, 16,19 288:6,8, 18,23 289:2,10, 13,18,22 290:3, 6,8,18 291:4,10, 16,19,25 292:11,14,18,20 293:3,6,10,13, 17,20,22,25 294:1,9,18 295:11,15,16, 20,24 296:12, 13,23 judge's 223:2,14 judgement 252:10 judges 9:19 15:24 16:19 22:6,10 24:18,22 25:13, 23 27:16 28:4 59:22 61:3 64:12 67:9 69:10,11,13 70:19 71:11 76:16,17 77:1 78:1 79:4,8 85:18 86:6 96:7, 9 97:18,24 103:24 104:22	111:16,23 124:2 164:11,23 165:8 166:16,17 172:7,16 177:9 178:15 179:1 191:13 202:21 205:20 223:7 224:20 225:7 232:14 235:10 240:24 242:9 275:5 276:13 291:23 296:9,11 judging 132:11 judgment 52:9 78:14 100:11 judicial 6:4 13:13 19:22 20:3 33:5 36:8 37:17 38:6,7 48:25 55:22 56:8 57:24 61:13 72:25 74:8 79:18 80:14,15 83:17 92:6 93:18 98:5 100:5 101:3,4 106:1 137:19 139:10 145:7, 20,21 155:8 156:8 160:23 161:6,21,22 170:15 182:3 183:16 186:4 193:25 194:13 195:22,23 203:10 211:8 213:7 217:17 219:19 220:13, 14 238:5 239:12 254:13 255:2 257:12 271:4	272:9 274:23 276:12 285:11 298:5 judiciary 29:15 39:19 44:24 45:3,6 48:19 52:18 83:17 104:7 131:5 152:5,10 271:10 275:11 July 111:14 112:12, 13,16 272:22 jumped 177:20 June 219:8 274:18 jurisdiction 166:7 169:6 268:15,18 jurist 86:24 jurists 16:1 jurors 76:19,20 jury 19:3,6 34:22 171:25 172:1 justice 15:1 42:14 49:8 83:4 84:13 131:7 157:23 187:22 266:18 272:9 277:17 278:5 Justin 258:15,20 juvenile 140:18,20,21 157:23 159:15 187:22 215:22	216:8 juveniles 140:18 215:21 <hr/> K <hr/> Kate 7:10 keel 150:16 Kelly 114:3 211:9,15, 20,21 Kershaw 39:24 40:5 Kevin 119:3 126:21 131:10 kick 279:17 kicked 46:5 kid 127:17 kids 108:11 125:14, 18 127:17 190:18 Kimpson 12:2,4,6,11,15, 19,22,25 13:3,6, 12 14:4,12,15, 20 15:7,16,19, 21,23 19:14,16 20:15 21:13,18, 20,21 22:1,24 23:6,9 24:6,14, 24 25:11,14 26:4,10,12,14, 20 27:1,4,9,21 28:14,21 29:18 30:1,5,12,13
--	---	---	--	--

31:6,11	151:4,5,15	lacked	lapse	179:10,13 181:1
kind	152:14 153:3,9,	160:6	266:23	184:10,25 185:2
25:1 36:7 43:1	11	lacks	lapses	186:20 187:1,8,
44:13 64:14	kitchen	79:24 100:13	276:18	12 188:3 189:18
65:16,24 85:19	97:9	ladies	large	192:6 197:24
94:14 96:6,8	knew	6:2,17 31:17	13:10 168:15	203:14 204:12
97:19,20,21	97:6 98:23	56:5 193:5	largely	205:9 207:9,10
102:21 109:18	120:6 236:9	lady	39:14 185:5	215:10 216:2,14
110:7 113:17,	knowing	260:20	larger	230:5 232:9,17
21,22 114:13	40:7,14 42:2,3	Lamantia	127:4	274:4 277:3
115:3,11 120:20	45:15 50:3,4	181:24 182:1,2,	lastly	282:2 295:8
127:12 129:11	95:18 104:10	5,9,14,15,18,22	15:23 18:18	laws
134:8 140:1,2	105:5 189:20	183:1,5 184:7,8,	late	13:20 33:13
141:7,15 142:13	206:5 282:10	12,13,16,20,22,	26:9 27:8	55:9 58:6 72:1
151:25 171:2	knowledge	24 185:15,19,23	laudatory	74:15 90:25
185:16 228:5	15:24 17:18	186:9,12 188:7	177:19 222:2	94:3 135:10
230:21 233:4	18:6 21:24 23:3,	189:14 191:19	laugh	138:1 152:19
234:15,16	4 25:22 27:23	193:12,19	67:6	155:15 183:22
241:25 242:16	44:16 54:11,24	194:8,18 195:22	laughed	210:9 213:13
243:4 244:1,2,	78:18 95:15	197:7,10,13,15	209:14	253:24 257:18
19 247:14 253:7	119:7 159:14	198:2,5,8,10,15,	law	297:15
260:16 263:21	187:6 269:16	25 199:5,7,16	16:23 18:8,10,	lawsuit
265:21,22	282:2,10	200:5,17,20,24	14,23 21:25	143:17,22
280:21 291:12	knowledgeable	201:2,5,12,14,	28:3,9 30:22	144:1,5 160:15
292:5	36:5 142:24	19,24 202:2,6,8	34:15,24 36:6	191:21,23 192:5
kindness	159:7 189:18	203:6 204:17	42:5 43:7 45:8,	lawsuits
205:10	281:23	206:3,12,15,17,	9,15 49:14,18,	143:16 191:20
kinds	Kormylo	18 207:7 209:3	20,21,22 59:23	lawyer
34:21 40:21	272:21	210:2,21 211:1,	63:12 65:9 66:7	19:12 35:15
124:3 291:23	Kormylo's	3	70:20 71:1,5,8,	45:18 46:1,24
Kinney	267:1	Lambert	13 78:7,9,16,21,	49:14 53:16
136:10,13,17,22	kudos	45:13,14 226:6,	25 79:1,21,24	54:4,12 63:23
137:1,5,8,11	201:11	7,9,18	83:13 87:5,6	86:3 89:24 90:1
138:14,15,16,22		land	88:17 89:16	95:17,21 117:25
139:1,6,14,18	L	227:23 228:1,9	97:1 98:15,16,	120:1 121:18
141:1,20		229:8,10 276:2	25 99:9 100:13	131:2 151:21
142:17,23	lack	landscape	110:6 123:23	152:2 165:25
143:15 145:2,	22:20 78:5 97:4	172:2	133:3 141:3,15,	184:9 187:4
20,25 147:4,5,9,	102:14 127:17	language	16 142:24 143:8	190:19 225:10,
13,15,17	134:3 178:11,23	273:2	147:18 157:4,11	19 238:3 283:3
148:12,15,19,22	217:18 243:3	languishing	159:9,14 160:2	lawyers
149:15,17,20,22	282:4	116:4,5	173:5 176:13	15:9 17:24
150:2,6,11,14				18:13,14 24:11,

23 27:24 45:16 59:25 60:3 64:17 65:14 67:16 68:17 71:6 83:19,20 98:19 121:9 122:2,15 164:17 166:1 173:16 174:15 190:11, 16 205:6 209:7 225:4 240:24 275:9 280:16 285:15 296:7	79:10 141:19 160:2 216:18 241:10 leave 41:5 63:22 291:5 298:7 leaving 50:8 51:8 153:7 247:11 lecture 83:13,14 led 136:1 Lee 39:21,23 42:1, 24 43:5 144:8 left 49:25 50:6 160:11 215:14 226:19 246:24 260:20 283:15 294:7 legal 6:8,14,21 15:22 17:17,19 18:6 26:18 27:15 28:10 34:11 54:15 70:7,8 76:3,7 78:7 82:10,18,24 95:8,12 98:20 105:25 131:9,23 139:19 148:2 153:14,21 156:18,23 159:8 169:16 186:13 215:6 217:13 231:7 249:11,25 271:5 273:16 legally 232:23	legend 173:13 legislative 35:19 42:8,20 44:11 45:4,7,9 251:8 legislator 20:25 38:16 48:14,18 49:11, 13 62:13 80:24 101:13 124:5 146:9 162:10 196:11 221:2 238:4 286:14 legislators 51:18 52:2,16, 17 120:1 legislature 41:5,14 44:15, 25 Legislature's 23:21 Leland 107:18 108:12, 13 121:11 lenses 179:11 Leon 83:6 lesser 105:4 letter 20:15,23 30:21 38:11,15 55:8 62:4,12 71:25 80:19,23 90:25 101:8,12 130:21 135:9 145:25 146:8 151:12 152:18 162:1,9 180:25 196:2,10 210:8 220:18	221:1 253:23 260:6 286:5,13 297:14 letters 47:8,13,14 151:7 195:6 280:15 281:5 letting 139:1 163:23 242:6 level 21:24 40:18 86:5 208:18 268:23 272:20 Level-headed 143:1 levels 86:3 208:12 238:5 Lexington 239:3 licensed 185:7 200:14 life 96:18 125:16 131:4 163:20 170:21 175:23 184:11 209:14 232:8 233:23 236:5 245:1 258:6 lift 295:12 light 109:12 202:1 204:18 240:17 lights 225:15 likes 95:14 151:11 limitations 20:20 38:21	62:9 81:4 101:18 146:5 162:6 196:7 220:23 286:10 limited 48:16 144:4 Lindi 7:16 lines 47:15 191:8 209:4,10 lion 177:18 liquidity 267:20 269:3,7 list 121:3 171:7 238:17,22 256:5 listed 36:20 236:23 listen 245:7 listened 20:9 37:25 61:23 80:8 100:22 145:14 161:15 195:16 220:7 285:24 listening 132:18 163:23 199:10 207:5 281:6 294:2,4 listens 142:25 litem 140:9 142:2 157:20 167:10, 20 180:1 literally 177:3 207:8 209:24
---	---	--	---	---

litigant 165:11,16,20 169:1 264:7 272:20 283:20 284:9	lives 133:20 134:4 238:11 240:14 271:21 282:22	long-term 107:17	lots 16:10 34:20 50:10,11 218:5	136:2
litigants 15:25 28:5 90:4 157:1,12 158:22 163:14 167:8 169:13,15 172:7 173:17 174:15 222:24 223:13 224:23 278:3 284:13 285:15	livestream 161:12	long-time 76:8	louder 275:14	<hr/> M <hr/>
litigants' 164:24	living 170:21 174:9	longer 85:14 174:1 175:5 297:4	love 138:10 198:16 246:4 279:25 280:1 284:23	made 6:22 12:21 18:24 28:19 32:17 40:6 43:18 46:14 50:9 51:19 57:4 60:6 73:20 91:21 93:3 94:16 104:14 125:4,15 148:20,25 153:22 154:21 192:1 193:10 197:15 212:16 232:7,22,24 233:9 248:14 277:13 282:11, 12 288:2
litigate 173:25 174:1	LLC 169:9 191:22	looked 17:8 103:15 233:9 247:2	loved 50:17	mail 207:25
litigated 61:1	LLCS 217:4	looms 127:4	lovely 133:14	mailing 186:1 238:18
litigates 205:21	local 43:8 70:4 78:22 107:23 108:23 166:1,6	lose 149:24	loves 284:18,19	main 107:20
litigation 27:20 67:12 157:14,17 159:15 167:9 168:23 207:11	Locally 50:12	losing 222:22,23 240:15	lovingly 295:3	maintain 96:10,14
litigators 206:21	Lockemy 95:13,14 102:25	loss 191:3,14 201:8	low 129:25 160:25 173:1 184:9 185:8 188:25 193:18 218:18, 23 219:16	maintained 43:3
live 20:6 37:23 42:10 47:1 61:21 66:6 80:5 100:19 142:8 145:12 185:3,25 186:1 195:13 219:10 220:5 228:5 285:22	logistics 78:12	lost 94:1 198:22 253:13	Lowcountry 172:10	maintaining 96:7 176:6
lived 185:8 229:6 238:9	lonely 46:13	lot 16:6 19:10 25:10 34:22 42:11,19 46:15 51:19 53:10 63:19,24 89:7 95:16,22 98:13, 19 106:14 110:8 113:6 117:20,23 118:11 123:22 140:9,12 141:25 142:2,6,8,11 174:1 216:11,13 217:6 218:23 222:15 223:23 226:10 229:4 239:1,4 241:14 243:13 249:9 253:7 278:10 296:9	lower 177:8 218:25	maintenance 291:5
	long 15:13 16:6 28:8 41:8,13 42:3 49:22 69:14 71:11 82:7 84:11 111:12 113:16 116:2, 13,24,25 118:7 119:17 121:12 122:10 131:1 135:4 138:21 170:10 185:10 198:23 200:19 201:18 233:1 277:2		Lowry 144:8	majority 77:22 82:24 95:23 99:14,16 132:13 172:8 175:15 176:16 222:1
	long-standing 77:20		loyal 126:2	
			Lucas 8:23 9:3 52:5	
			Luke 294:2	
			lump 263:21 264:2 265:22	
			lumped 265:15	
			lunch	

make 14:1 16:12,15, 23 17:25 22:5, 19 23:13 28:7 33:16 37:6 42:22 45:9 46:11 49:23 58:11 60:23 64:23 69:5 71:6 74:20 75:13 80:2 86:16 94:6 100:15 102:21 103:23 105:2 110:13 121:25 131:12,16,17 133:24 134:1 137:7 138:7,22 149:3 151:17 155:21 159:12 165:7 181:19 182:25 184:3 185:11 198:5 223:10,12 226:15 229:10 249:1 251:2 255:22,25 256:12,14 259:15 260:2 261:20 265:23 267:9 270:9,16 274:7 279:19 281:11,15,16 282:5,18 284:4, 7,8,12 289:15 292:14,22	118:2 128:22 132:1,4 163:24 167:15 174:9 179:10 181:13 202:1 204:18 205:11 207:12 212:19 295:7 male 249:9,24 malpractice 109:4 man 52:5,11 147:10 manage 76:17,18 140:21 management 77:5 96:4,5 113:8 191:21 managerial 96:2 managing 77:8 mandates 266:3 273:12,19 manifested 269:5 manner 70:7,14 76:20 165:1 176:21 Marine 209:11,16,21 Marissa 153:24 154:6,11 156:13 159:4 marital 157:17 159:15 169:3,8,19 187:19 189:2 217:2 mark 74:7 249:14	MARKED 13:1,4 32:23 33:1 57:12,15, 18,21 73:25 74:3 93:8,11,14 137:12,15 155:1,4 183:6,9, 12 212:22,25 213:3 257:3,6,9 market 158:23 Marlin 27:2 marriages 289:15 married 288:4,5,24 289:3,6,9,12,17 290:1,3,23,24 291:1 martial 169:18 Martin 169:25 Martindale- hubbell 191:9 198:20 Mary 207:19 massive 240:13 Master 222:10 masterful 276:6 material 259:21,22,23 260:2 261:17 materials 13:19 33:10 58:4 74:13 86:13 93:22	137:24 155:13 183:21 213:12 257:17 259:7 math 171:5 mathematician 175:22 matter 6:22 7:13 16:11 37:10 41:19 67:17 160:17 183:4 192:19 235:1,3,12 237:7 250:18 283:11 289:12 matters 17:4,8,11 36:12, 13,20,22,25 50:13 51:25 53:4 79:7,11,21 86:6,7 88:5 90:17 141:22 152:3 157:19, 21,24,25 158:11,14,15, 16,17,18,20 188:8 193:9 216:8,21 246:5 253:15 259:4 maturity 125:22 Mccaslin 11:11,14,19 104:2 112:4 Mcdonald 9:7,11,16 Mcelveen 151:10 Mcgowan 282:15 Mckinnon 79:10 86:23	87:1 89:3 111:20 meaning 28:1 meaningful 139:24,25 means 45:11 46:4 90:16 measured 189:20 measurement 64:2 measuring 176:25 mediate 140:11 171:18 174:8 217:2 218:23 235:6 mediating 216:25 217:21 218:12,21,25 224:10 235:5 mediation 170:23 171:7,22 172:5,15,18,19 173:23 218:10 219:23 241:14 244:4 mediations 215:15 224:9 226:11,19 230:5 231:17,19 mediator 140:10 158:5 171:12 217:6,12 232:5 241:20 243:16,23 244:25 247:14 mediators 172:10
---	--	---	---	---

medical 191:22	194:5 196:3,7, 15 201:16	mentors 173:8	mindful 296:7 297:3	249:1
meet 104:25 126:9 138:10 140:3 258:25 273:8	208:24 210:1 220:19,23 221:6,20 249:11,25 278:21 281:14 286:6,10,18 287:10 293:23 295:19 298:23	mere 266:9 268:19	mine 143:24 144:13 147:17 215:13, 19	Misti 92:1,13,18 95:4 96:24
meeting 126:13	memo 283:4	merit 6:5 13:13 33:5 57:24 74:8 93:18 155:8 178:14 183:16 192:14 213:7 257:12	minimized 248:8	misunderstandi ng 279:12
meets 14:15 34:6 75:22 95:4 139:15 156:14 186:9 215:2	memories 46:15	message 208:14	Minister 49:8	mix 171:15
Melissa 72:24 73:6,11 82:22	memory 103:1,3 292:3	messages 44:20	ministerial 144:2	mixed 36:15
Melissa's 89:23	men 179:3	met 6:24 26:18 127:14 131:4 197:7 234:11	minor 70:11	mixing 249:20
member 14:10 35:9 38:12 41:4 109:4 132:12 144:19 160:22 251:8 281:16,17	mental 19:18 37:19 61:15 79:15 100:8 145:4 161:3 176:6 193:21 194:11 219:21 232:20 285:8	mic 199:3	minority 175:16	model 204:24
members 6:11 8:8,15,20 9:1,13,25 10:6, 12,18 11:4,16 20:16,20 21:3, 17 37:3 38:21, 24 39:13 40:25 42:12 43:9 48:21 62:5,9,17 80:20 81:4,8,24 87:17 101:9,18, 21 102:11 128:15 132:3 146:1,5,13 147:2 150:5 162:2,6,14 163:3 170:5,6 179:20 193:12	mentally 215:12	Micah 6:3 83:7	minors 157:22	modeled 16:1
	mention 45:1 120:25 151:10 267:17	microphone 23:13 255:5 258:3 279:5	minute 57:10 149:5 182:17 231:10 245:23 267:13	modification 283:10
	mentioned 24:17 44:10 86:19 89:22 111:15 113:5 118:22 119:15 120:23 121:8 122:14 197:8 225:3 241:24	Midland 19:15	minutes 85:16 200:20 201:19 254:20 259:22 260:7,25 270:3,4 275:24 276:2	modified 283:13,23
	mentor 147:12,17,22 148:7	midst 22:12 168:23	misapplies 273:18	mom 125:8,10 127:16
		military 142:6,11 188:17	misgivings 70:15	moment 12:14 32:10 33:5 55:5 56:2, 21 71:22 73:14 74:7 75:2,15 90:22 92:21 112:17 136:25 137:19 138:12 154:14 155:8 183:15 185:17 188:15 212:9 213:6 247:15 255:20 256:22 258:6 280:19
		million 158:22	missed 90:9 231:14	moments 121:22 165:4
		Milton 12:2,6,11 13:3,6 14:12	missing 215:17 231:20	
		mind 99:18 184:14 223:22 237:12 283:1	mistake 192:2 224:3	
			mistaken 26:9	
			mistakes	

Monday 115:9	17:13 117:17 153:12 298:20	municipal 222:11	naysayers 54:22	nice 54:17 94:19
money 174:1,16,19 176:1	motions 16:8,23 22:3,14 24:12 78:14	murder 43:12	necessarily 168:10 233:21 240:13	97:23 214:4 236:12
monster 243:9	79:2 97:17 111:19,22	mutual 175:1	needed 37:6 47:22 141:6 219:14	nimble 71:4
month 16:18 171:18,20 219:5	117:23,25 175:13 274:20	myriad 249:2	needing 17:18	Ninth 156:8
months 40:10 103:2 106:7,9 116:5,6 168:1,3	motives 108:4	mystery 208:23	needlessly 296:15	no-nonsense 176:21
Montreal 107:19 108:18 121:13	mouth 231:11	<hr/> N <hr/>	negative 143:2 202:22,24 206:10 233:15 280:12	nodding 174:21
moot 268:18	move 56:1 75:2 148:20 149:1 188:23 218:18 236:2 239:22	named 160:15	neglect 140:15	nominate 7:8 9:19 70:19
moral 131:9,23	moved 95:24 235:24 239:18,23	names 125:1	negotiate 132:5	nominated 7:14,17 9:18
morning 6:2,23 21:20,21 22:6 24:5 26:4 31:19 33:22 34:1,2 41:23,24 58:20,21 63:9, 10 66:19 69:24 72:17,22 83:11 91:18,24 94:24, 25 105:13,14 112:23,24 298:16,19	moves 192:20 298:15	naming 124:25 125:1	negotiated 76:12	nomination 9:3
mortgage 168:12	movie 171:2	narrative 269:6	nervous 68:14 94:17	non- 164:25
mother 75:7 237:6 284:21	moving 39:12 148:18,24 149:7	narrow 251:13	net 141:9	non-demeaning 164:25
mothers 140:7	Mulligan 147:8	National 98:24	neutral 85:15 266:13,16	non-payment 272:6
motion 6:6,8 16:22	multi- 158:21	natural 109:19 241:8	Newman 30:3	non-plussed 223:7
	multi-million 180:10 189:1,5 217:2	naturally 280:7	news 165:14,16	non-responsive 206:24 207:11
	multiple 61:3 96:14 216:25 217:4 236:22 238:5 242:10 271:25	nature 37:8 143:22 144:4 168:17 169:10 191:23 192:7 205:18 284:5	newspaper 13:20 33:10,11 58:6 74:13 93:23 138:1 155:15 183:23 213:14 248:16 252:9 257:19	nonetheless 134:20 249:2
	multiples 217:3	nauseam 106:5	nexus 229:16	Nonverbal 165:17
		navigated 68:3		North 188:23
		nay 6:12 10:19 192:25 298:24		Norton 10:9,14
				notate 8:9
				note 14:9,12 19:15 21:11 30:25

34:3 37:13 39:7 42:25 55:13 61:9 63:1 75:19 79:12 81:19 95:1 100:1 102:5 139:11 145:1 146:22 151:7 152:15 156:10 160:25 162:23 181:4 186:5 193:18 194:7 196:24 201:7,13 210:13 214:23 219:16 221:15 243:14, 15 254:3 256:24 259:8,10 285:4 287:4 297:19	nuanced 217:13 number 121:9 178:5 197:17 202:15, 19,22 233:10 255:22 numeral 261:25 263:23 267:16 269:1 numerous 36:11 226:18 nuts 76:24	observation 44:11 296:6 observed 45:5 obvious 47:3 109:5 283:22 occasion 111:21 occasions 111:20 occupation 232:23 occupied 178:9 occurrence 134:9 offense 119:13 offer 16:4 17:19 28:12 35:7 48:23 77:19 78:6 97:5 98:6 109:23 117:16 140:24 143:3 159:22 160:7 190:1 191:1 217:18 218:19 251:16 252:10 278:25 282:6,7 285:1 offered 150:25 251:19 offering 30:16 31:9 51:13 53:19 55:22 72:13 91:10 113:4 123:21 124:10 134:22 151:6 180:21 181:14	203:25 210:22 254:13 298:5 offers 48:19 85:7 118:16,18 119:6 132:5 office 16:21 17:10 39:22 46:12 77:3,4 82:7,11 96:3 114:22 117:21 118:23 119:18 123:11 129:25 130:4 131:6,20 132:3 133:4 192:10 203:18 216:8 229:23,24 230:3 237:4,5,6,7 238:19 officer 26:11,16 officials 107:21 oftentimes 83:20 older 45:22 98:10 oldest 125:9,14 127:16,17 omnipotent 282:9 on-demand 110:20 111:7 one's 247:15 277:18 onus 27:22 71:5 open 31:1 55:13 72:5 124:22 143:25	152:23 181:5 203:24 254:4 297:20 open-toed 234:18 opening 14:1 26:3 33:17 58:12 75:12 94:7 138:8,23 139:2 155:21 176:8 184:4 214:10,13 operate 131:22 operated 147:22 operating 264:18 operation 296:17 operations 76:19 77:4 opinion 51:20 189:12 203:10 205:4 opinions 16:7 51:10 opponent 107:3 opportunities 23:14 35:2 87:8 242:5 opportunity 14:5 22:19 29:20 30:19 33:20 35:1,3,21 50:6 51:4 58:16 60:12 74:20,24 87:6 94:11 104:20 105:1 135:7 138:7,10 140:3 150:10
notebooks 7:15 noted 13:9 20:1 90:10 134:21 147:7 159:18 194:5 201:15 256:11 257:1 notes 258:22 notice 114:6,10 noticed 74:21 138:8 213:20 236:22 noting 190:24 notwithstanding 69:11 November 6:6 novocaine 201:1,2	O O'KELLY 75:9 oath 164:10,12 165:1 190:11 205:13 209:6 objected 37:12 objecting 114:7 objection 12:23,25 32:19 57:6 73:22 93:5 137:11 154:23 183:2 212:19 256:18 276:25 objections 137:9 272:4 277:20 objective 85:12 281:24 obligation 119:14 obligatory 47:16			

156:22,23,24,25 157:12 180:22 186:19 200:23 203:4 210:5 224:15,16 226:1 233:4 245:18 253:20 264:13 265:23 267:10 272:8 279:16 280:10 296:19 297:11 oppose 6:12 opposed 9:14 10:7,13,19 11:2,17 18:7 192:25 272:5 298:24 opposing 40:3,8,19 44:1 47:1 263:2,3,13 opposite 204:4 283:14,20 opposition 13:24 33:15 58:9 74:18 94:4 138:5 155:19 184:1 213:17 257:22 opted 125:6 Orangeburg 76:11 order 7:3 16:16 17:25 114:20,22,24,25 115:2,5,6,10,21 141:4 157:5 172:17 180:8 187:13 216:3 223:10 262:9 264:5,7,10,17,	19,20,21 265:1 266:5,8 267:3, 17 273:18 276:15 277:25 279:14 283:11, 22 ordered 276:20,22 orders 16:21 17:22,24 18:2 117:22 271:7 273:23 274:17 275:16 277:22 289:5 Ordinarily 260:1 organization 259:9 organizations 90:18 organized 19:24 159:7 204:9 original 269:12 276:21 originally 277:2 Osteen 170:22 outburst 242:1,2 outcome 21:1 38:17 62:14 80:25 101:14 146:10 162:11 196:12 221:3 225:17 286:15 outcomes 217:11 outlier 204:6	outliers 67:13 outline 16:25 outlined 259:1 outright 250:3 outset 13:9 260:15 outstanding 90:2 265:1 overbearing 277:17 278:2 overdue 17:14 overlooked 89:5 273:21 overstate 67:13 Overture 83:7 84:8 overwhelmingly 142:19 owing 276:20 owned 267:18 ownership 169:16 owns 228:1 <hr/> P <hr/> p.m. 299:5 P.O. 237:2 PA 34:17	packets 224:1,21 pages 13:2,5 32:24 33:2 57:13,16, 19,22 74:1,4 93:9,12,15 137:13,16 155:2,5 183:8, 10,13 212:24 213:1,4 257:5,7, 11 paid 192:4 275:1 276:22 painful 129:4 paint 70:2 panel 52:16 79:23 100:12 paper 44:17 79:1 paperwork 238:16 paragraph 263:25 264:1,21 265:24 266:14 268:25 269:1 272:2,17 273:19,24 275:25 paraphrase 29:4 paraphrasing 246:22 249:15 pardon 170:5 210:4 parent 142:5 284:17 290:19	parental 140:16 157:24 158:18 parenting 201:9 parents 30:9 45:25 140:7,14,15 180:4 188:18,22 227:22 228:5,8 229:9 pariah 178:1 Park 199:17 part 32:20 50:15 52:1 66:14 67:22 82:17 84:11 85:3 88:2, 3 89:4 90:21 167:4 183:3 202:11 212:19 218:25 227:20, 23 228:18 242:8 247:17 251:5 253:1 264:11 270:11 289:23 part-time 117:14 140:20 parte 266:14 267:5 281:9,10 participant 174:13 246:14 participate 199:13 participating 44:11 participation 14:11
--	---	---	--	--

parties 21:3 37:6 38:24 44:7 60:3 62:17 81:7 101:21 142:15 146:13 162:14 177:10 196:15 221:6 223:4 271:20 278:4 286:18	paths 215:24 patience 60:5 82:14 134:16,18 222:23 276:8 patient 217:21 218:11 281:24 pattern 60:15 271:23 274:19 patterns 36:9 paucity 178:23 pause 237:25 243:18 pay 15:10 28:18 225:16 276:22 payment 265:1 277:9 294:21 payments 274:7 276:25 pays 223:1 PCS'D 142:9 PDQ 13:3 14:14 32:25 34:5 57:14 74:2 75:20 90:10 93:10 95:2 137:14 139:13 155:3 156:12 183:8 186:7 212:24 214:25 257:5 281:13	peace 176:9 Pee 37:13 61:9 145:1 peer 191:9,11 198:21 peers 204:7 249:24 penalties 132:7 273:21 pending 8:4 20:25 38:17 62:14 80:25 101:14 146:10 162:11 168:3 196:12 221:3 286:15 people 26:23 28:23 29:21 46:1 47:19 50:13 51:9 53:10 54:6, 12,16 55:1 59:4, 14 63:20 67:17 68:12 69:9,12 83:2,18,20 84:18,21 96:19 98:14,21,23 99:7,17 107:20 108:6,19 116:3, 5,15 119:6,25 120:19,23 121:3,9 123:18 126:19 127:20 129:24 131:18, 19 132:17 133:6,7,19,24, 25 140:11 142:8 151:1 152:6 157:2 163:23 166:11 171:23	173:25 174:13, 19 175:11 176:18 179:13, 14,16 186:23 187:10 189:3 190:6 199:9,10, 18,23 200:9 204:18 205:15, 19 207:4 208:12 218:1,2,5 222:6 224:5,6,10 226:13 227:1 230:7 232:6 239:7 240:21 241:7 242:6 243:21,24 244:8 246:4 251:11 260:22 281:5 289:6 290:1 292:6 people's 68:13 133:20 134:4 282:21 289:15 perceived 18:12 190:24 284:4 296:3 percent 87:25 88:1 103:13 116:19 124:16 167:1,6, 18,19,20,23 202:24 204:3,5, 6 206:7,9 208:20 219:4 277:9 percentage 167:13 171:13, 19 202:23 percentage-wise 171:7 percentages	202:20 perception 48:17 292:3 294:14 perfect 16:14,15 36:1 70:18 123:24 142:23 151:24 255:5 perform 164:17 performance 86:3 perilous 248:18,19 period 17:3 46:11 112:10 113:21 230:23 person 15:20 20:12 29:16 38:3 47:23 62:1 80:11 83:13 84:16 100:25 103:17 104:5 108:7,12 116:1, 12,25 117:2,4, 17 119:9 126:9 127:8 129:20 131:2,4 132:19 133:6,10 144:16 145:17 151:22 152:3,8 161:18 163:20,21 168:22 176:5 177:21 178:10 190:8,9,13 191:16,17 195:19 204:23 206:14 207:3 220:10 225:21
---	--	--	---	--

226:18,22 232:3,8,23,24 235:21 245:1,4, 5,15 246:2 281:11 283:1 286:2 288:21 295:5 person's 67:24 178:1 personal 12:16 32:12 44:13 56:24 73:15 92:23 120:17 125:19 128:16 137:2 154:16 158:24 168:21 182:19 212:11 234:2 241:11 255:22 271:8 284:5 personality 35:5 128:16 159:11 personally 48:6 60:2 235:19 243:25 245:15 291:21 personnel 77:5 perspective 35:20,22 39:18 44:23 48:17 106:2 150:16 157:16 194:3 276:6 296:8 pertinent 71:7,8 Peter 171:15 petition 37:2	petted 46:5 Phillip 182:14 192:6 philosophies 35:10 philosophy 172:12 phone 207:16 208:3 261:6 physical 19:18 37:19 61:15 79:15 100:8 145:3 161:2 193:21 194:11 219:21 285:7 physically 215:12 pick 47:8 207:16 284:22 picked 170:24 picking 41:25 208:3 pickleball 284:19,23 piece 169:17 pieces 111:6 246:21 252:11 Piedmont 81:17 100:2 pile 95:24 pinnacle 187:3 place	94:1 166:20 219:2,5 227:11, 13 236:8 246:18 places 18:8 plaintiff 263:4 275:2 276:24 277:8, 13,19 plaintiff's 269:6 272:3 273:1 plan 142:13 290:20 plane 276:3 plans 142:13 play 149:25 playing 171:6 272:21 plea 29:6 85:5 95:24 pleading 29:7 pleas 95:25 172:2 176:1 pleasant 165:19 pleasure 45:14 280:16 pledge 20:24 38:16 62:13 80:24 101:13 146:9 162:10 196:11 221:2 286:14 pledging 21:8 39:4 62:23 81:13 102:2	146:19 162:20 196:21 221:12 286:25 plenty 46:20,21 242:20 plug 23:18 pockets 174:2 podium 255:4 point 7:9 43:3 45:2 46:3,12 68:5 90:8 94:20 105:24 124:23 126:1 129:22 130:19 131:25 132:9 143:14 173:14 203:22 206:7 247:9 248:10 253:9 257:24 258:1 267:22 268:18 270:13 296:1 297:3,6 pointed 192:1 282:11 pointing 284:21 points 104:13 131:15, 16 295:21 296:2 poise 285:13 pole 222:17 policy 49:16 50:23 117:21 118:23 political 48:24 49:5	54:13 177:24 249:12,25 250:20 251:10, 13 281:14 politics 51:8 poll 275:21 pontificate 238:6 pool 94:18 184:17 poor 217:16 274:18 pop 175:9 Pope-black 211:9,11,15,20, 21,24 212:2,6, 10,14,17,21 214:2,6,9,13,18 215:2,5 216:2, 19 217:7 219:17 220:13 221:23, 24 223:21 226:4,8,17 227:3,5,8,11,14, 19,25 228:4,8, 15,18,22 229:1, 6,12,18,20,22, 24 230:1,4,9,11, 13,16,17 231:4 233:6,16 234:4, 6,11,16,22 235:3 236:8,17, 25 237:2,4,10, 23 238:12,16 239:14,20 240:1,5 241:23 243:1,20 244:15,21 246:7,11,13
---	---	---	---	---

247:7,16,18 249:22 250:7,10 252:3,7,14 253:17,19 254:10,16,18 pornography 158:4 portion 20:6 30:17 31:8 37:22 55:4,20 61:20 71:20 72:17 80:5 100:19 135:5 145:11 152:13 161:12 180:16, 19 195:13 210:3 220:4 253:17 285:21 297:10 portions 87:4 97:16 111:17,19 256:25 pose 297:8 posed 200:23 posing 51:24 position 14:16 34:8 48:2 49:3,16 59:4 75:24 95:6 99:21,23 109:23 129:6 133:19,22 134:2 139:16 156:15 170:14 185:12 186:10, 25 205:16,17 215:3 216:6 222:22,25 235:4,13 240:15 255:7	positive 15:19 36:1 59:21 66:25 77:12 96:24 142:19,21 159:4,18 189:17 203:7 217:10 242:21 253:2,9 281:21 282:1 287:22 possesses 36:4 possession 259:7 possibly 42:16 123:5 post 237:4,5,6,7 238:18 post-violation 273:23 posted 277:15 postponed 222:19 potential 24:12 37:1,3 135:12 144:18 160:20,21 207:13 potentially 55:11 72:3 91:2 152:21 181:3 210:11 254:1 297:18 pouring 177:17 power 134:3 powered 67:16	powers 35:13 44:12,18 practical 89:17 practice 14:17 15:8 34:9, 19 39:14 42:18 47:4,10 59:7 65:6,8,17,25 66:5 75:25 77:21 82:18 95:7 96:11,12, 14 103:6,7,13 109:16 115:14 117:16,23,25 119:6 139:17 140:6 147:20 148:5 156:16 157:11 160:1 166:23,24 167:1,7,12,21, 24 171:14 173:23 186:11 187:8 189:19 203:14 204:12 215:4 219:24 225:14 231:23 256:6 266:3 273:12 280:5,17 289:18 practiced 34:16 63:12 69:14 87:5 187:16 practices 35:11 practicing 19:12 34:15,24 35:15 43:6 49:22 71:1 78:7 123:23 170:2 173:5 176:13 184:10,24	207:9,15,24 215:13 225:8 232:19 275:9 practitioner 60:19 76:9,16 78:1 157:10 207:12 pragmatic 281:24 praise 90:9 pre-imposing 266:16 pre-judged 267:20 pre-judging 266:6 268:9 269:3,6 pre-transcript 262:25 preach 47:4,10 precedent 132:20 preclude 280:24 predicate 247:4 predictability 296:11 predominantly 97:25 121:10 preemptively 276:17 preference 166:5 preferential 278:1 prejudice 272:7 preliminary	22:8 259:10 prep 104:18 110:15, 17,20 preparation 60:25 141:4,6 157:4,6,8 187:13,15 216:3,5 prepare 45:18 61:5 88:20 prepared 18:13 22:5 24:25 53:13 112:5 141:17 191:4 225:11 256:2 270:20 prerogative 45:9 251:14 present 13:25 33:16 50:6 51:4 58:10 74:19 94:5 138:6 184:2 213:18 257:23 presentation 23:24 259:9 presented 79:3 132:16 259:13 293:1 presenting 86:24 276:6 presents 86:24 194:4 presided 271:23 pressure 53:5 68:13 225:11 241:20 presume 54:12
---	--	--	---	--

pretend 138:12 180:15	221:3 234:10 267:6 286:15	285:20	135:6 146:15 149:7 152:13	225:6
pretrial 22:3,17	prioritize 115:21	procedurally 270:6	156:1 162:16 180:20 181:23	program 253:1
pretty 7:15 34:20 65:9 112:16 188:4 219:3 223:1 237:11,13 288:1	priority 115:19 222:17, 18	procedure 18:20 19:10 21:25 71:9 78:16 97:10 112:3 179:12	196:18 198:1 199:13 200:18 201:18 210:4 221:9 235:24 251:12 253:18 264:9 265:9,11 266:6 269:5 270:12 271:18 273:3 276:19 286:22 297:10	prohibition 20:5 37:21 61:19 80:4 100:18 145:10 161:11 195:12 220:3 285:20
prevalent 207:22,23	private 96:11 98:12 103:6,7 109:16 147:20 157:20 166:24 167:8,9, 12,21,24 225:14	procedures 76:14 78:12 97:22		promise 298:10
prevent 117:17	privately 140:7	proceed 6:13 11:23 25:2 31:13 56:6 72:19 91:25 94:9 135:25 136:5,9 144:24 181:18 193:1 211:4,6 214:12 270:10	processes 16:21 24:20	promoting 44:1
previous 13:22 48:14,24 58:7 74:16 86:12 138:2 155:17 183:24 213:15 236:19 257:20	privilege 69:25 222:7 223:18	proceeding 177:4 290:13	processing 251:23	pronounce 258:4
previously 230:25	pro 60:3 264:7 266:21 271:6 272:20 274:21 278:2,3	proceedings 20:13 38:4 62:2 80:12 101:1 143:20 145:18 161:19 195:20 220:11 272:17 280:25 286:3	product 69:10	pronouncing 181:24 206:15 258:8
pride 251:6	probe 130:5	process 7:1 21:5 24:11, 16 30:18 32:21 44:12 46:9 51:17 52:1 55:5, 20 59:12 62:19 69:5,8 71:21 72:23 81:10 90:21 94:15 97:20 101:23 105:10 119:23 120:2,6,15,19 131:13 133:13	profession 15:23 90:3 152:10 156:24	proper 158:6 160:3 262:6
prided 18:4	problem 122:11 123:14, 18 168:14 190:12 207:18, 21 209:20 249:13 250:1		professional 19:21 34:11,23 37:16 39:16 53:12 61:12 76:4,7 79:17 95:9 96:16 100:4 125:21 139:20 156:19 161:4 186:14 190:10 193:24 194:12 215:7 219:18 273:14 285:10	properly 262:15,22 263:4
primarily 39:22 52:23 54:10	problematic 163:11 241:4		proposals 194:12 215:7 219:18 273:14 285:10	property 141:12 169:17 189:11 227:17, 18,19 228:10,18 229:15 238:14 267:18,25 268:6,11,14,19
principles 28:10 35:16 272:10 273:16	problems 65:19 208:25		professionalism 145:6 160:6,8 190:23 252:1	proposal 272:22
prior 20:25 22:18 24:16 38:17 41:18 62:14 65:23 80:25 89:2 101:14 125:7 135:15 146:10 162:11 170:18 179:5 196:12 215:21	procedural 20:4 37:21 61:19 80:3 100:17 145:10 161:10 195:11 220:3 271:11 272:18 273:16		professionally 199:20 245:16	proposed 114:23 264:5,7, 16,19 266:8 267:3 272:4
			professions	pros 65:21
				prosecuted 105:24
				prosecution 70:21 83:10

95:21 132:7	proverbial	223:11	pushover	183:18 193:21
prosecutor	134:20	punish	152:1	194:11 210:15
98:9 99:1,3,8,	provide	174:14	put	213:9 219:21
10,19 105:19	28:2 71:7 83:3	punished	45:24 48:14	254:5 257:14
116:4 127:15	237:14,18 262:6	279:13	49:6 78:22 86:2	259:1 266:1,11
140:19,20	296:4	punishing	94:17 103:11	273:6 285:7
150:13	provided	117:9	104:3 133:13	297:21
prosecutors	145:8 261:8	punitive	134:2 176:13	qualified
96:5 98:22	269:13 277:13	205:8,24 275:4	197:18 223:3	7:7,14,17 8:17
106:7,8	proxy	277:17	252:11 260:24	9:18 11:6 19:16,
prospect	274:16	purchased	294:20,23	20 34:12 37:14,
294:20	public	227:25 229:9	Putnam	18 49:2 61:11,
protect	20:7 26:7,8 27:2	purely	94:13	14 76:4 79:13,
156:24 271:18	37:24 43:7,8,10,	112:7 177:22	puts	16 82:22 86:14
protected	17,21 48:17,18,	purge	96:13 218:14	95:9 100:3,6
265:9	21 49:3 52:21	274:8 279:15,	putting	122:19 145:2,5
protection	53:25 55:3	16,17	133:18 164:20	152:9 161:1
289:5	61:21 77:2,21	purpose		193:19,23
protections	79:20 80:6 82:7,	53:24 105:4,5	Q	194:9,25 195:9
176:14	11,24 83:3,19	144:9,14 253:12		198:13,14 200:7
Protopapas	84:5,9 90:16	purposely	qualification	201:6 219:20
8:2 153:13	91:11 98:11,15,	128:21	6:24 8:5,11,12,	273:15 285:6,9
163:4,5,7 164:8,	21,23 99:4	purposes	17,19,22,24 9:3,	qualify
14,19 165:4,20,	100:20 105:16,	13:2,5 32:24	10,15,22 10:2,3,	45:19 139:20
25 166:4,9,14,	19,23 106:6,8	33:2 57:13,16,	8,9,14,15,16,20,	156:19 186:14
22 167:1,4,7,11,	107:17 109:7,	19,22 74:1,4	22,25 11:13,18	215:7
15,18,23 168:6,	11,15,17 113:3	93:9,12,15	48:7 86:10	qualifying
19,25 169:6,13,	121:15 130:22	137:13,16	87:11 102:18	11:8
20 170:4 171:15	134:21 140:13,	143:20 155:2,5	104:25 122:10	qualities
225:3	17,18 145:12	183:7,10,13	152:6 258:24	53:15 96:17
prototypical	148:1 151:10	212:23 213:1,4	259:17	246:4 296:10
70:23	161:13 163:25	257:4,7,10	qualifications	quality
proud	187:5 195:14	pursuant	7:5 8:1 9:20	90:3 274:11,12
30:4 42:2 90:7	203:12 220:5	30:19 55:6	13:15 19:18	question
253:10 282:10	237:16 251:15	71:23 86:11	31:2 33:7 37:19	8:4,11 9:9,22
prove	266:19 271:17	90:23 135:7	52:25 55:14	10:8 11:13
84:16,17	275:14 285:22	152:15 180:23	58:1 61:15 72:6	40:23 43:25
proved	pull	210:6 253:21	74:10 79:14	45:12 48:14,15,
274:7	279:5	297:12	89:13 93:19	22 49:9,10,25
proven	pulling	pursuit	100:7 135:16	50:4 51:1,3,15,
272:13	174:25 178:18	134:24 280:3	137:21 145:3	24 63:16 66:9,
	pun		152:24 155:10	22,23 68:11
			161:2 181:6	

88:8 105:10	199:24,25	8:19,24 9:23	130:9,15,17	re-election
107:10 109:3,13	200:23 202:4	11:1 12:2 31:25	131:24 134:6	11:12 202:18
118:1 127:22	210:2 213:20	56:12 73:3 78:4	170:7,8,13,17,	203:25 280:9
148:17 157:9	214:12,14	92:11 136:15	22 171:1,3,13,	RE-
199:10 202:25	221:19,21	154:3 182:7	19,24 172:21	EXAMINATIO
223:17 229:14	252:24 260:12,	211:13 255:10	173:1,12 174:4,	N
230:2 232:25	15 261:19 264:3	258:13 296:3,18	21 175:18	278:16
235:21 239:17,	267:11 268:3	raised	176:24 177:12	re-litigating
19 256:5 263:11	269:20 270:11	21:12 36:9 39:8	192:22 197:6,	259:5
267:25 287:7	285:18 287:9,	63:2 67:12	11,14,16 198:3,	reach
questioning	11,24 292:10	81:20 102:6	7,9,11,23 199:3,	48:20 104:7,8
21:14 39:10	293:24 297:9	146:23 162:24	6,8 200:3,16,18,	169:7
63:4 81:22	298:9 299:4	173:3 185:4	22 201:1,3,6,13,	reaching
102:8 108:4	quickly	196:25 199:24	15,23,25 202:4,	23:12
128:15 146:25	16:22 23:16	202:15 209:5	7,9 203:19	reacquaint
162:25 175:20	80:1 100:15	218:17 221:16	206:1,4,13,18	78:15
197:2 204:13	191:25 247:10	282:2 287:5	208:25 248:24	react
218:18 221:18	quiet	295:22	293:24,25	241:7
267:25 269:24	46:13	raises	294:2,10	reacted
questionnaire	quirks	190:8	295:12,20	44:21
12:17 32:13	225:13	raising	298:15	reactions
56:25 73:15	quit	8:6,7,13 9:11	Rankin's	241:8 243:11,14
92:24 137:3	59:16	10:4,10,17 11:2,	70:10	247:20
154:17 182:20	quote	15	rare	read
212:12 255:23	114:16 249:6,8,	Ralph	134:9	16:13 29:3
questions	10,13,19,21	8:5	rarely	47:14,15 68:1
14:3,7 21:14,16,	250:15 252:5	ran	131:11	82:20 104:4
18 24:2 33:19,	273:15,17	194:23 242:1,5	rate	128:3 180:15,16
21 39:11 41:1	274:13,14	range	177:1 225:3,5	203:12 209:18
53:23 58:14		140:5,23 188:11	rated	224:1,20
63:5 75:3,14,17	R	Rankin	191:8 198:20	242:23,24
81:23,25 85:21,	rabbit	6:9 28:15,16,22	rates	249:16 262:4
23 87:17 94:9	171:3	29:19 30:2,6	44:18	264:20 280:19
97:19 102:10,12	race	47:7,8 66:17,18,	rating	281:1
104:9,15 111:24	9:5 10:21,22	20,22 67:8,11	191:9,12	reading
117:11 119:13,	106:17 107:7	69:3 87:19,21	198:21,22	17:1 22:1 47:2
14 124:20	109:6 125:2	88:12,18	203:23	67:24 97:10
138:25 147:1,3	250:19	124:15,18	rattled	111:9 112:2
150:19 155:24	races	125:25 126:6,8,	110:8	207:5 265:4,5
163:2,4 170:6	7:20,22	11,13,16,19,24	re-	reads
173:12 179:21	raise	127:3 128:2,7,9,	9:7 282:24	82:22
180:18 184:6		13,24 129:11,22		
193:12 197:3				

ready 75:17 98:1 116:17,18,21	13 recalling 170:10	94:8,21 105:10 138:24 155:23 248:18 260:25 269:25 278:14	19,20 154:10,24 156:6,10,13 162:23 181:5,21 182:13 183:3 185:23 186:5,8 193:6,7 196:24 211:19 212:20 214:19,23 215:1 221:15 254:3, 22,23 255:16 256:19,24 258:19 263:1,8 268:10 279:10, 20 287:4 294:18 297:20 299:3	reflect 29:14 151:8 217:20 218:4,13 225:25 231:16 245:10,17 268:17
real 227:17,19 244:9,14 296:4	recede 298:16,25	recognized 246:23 253:11	211:19 212:20 214:19,23 215:1 221:15 254:3, 22,23 255:16 256:19,24 258:19 263:1,8 268:10 279:10, 20 287:4 294:18 297:20 299:3	reflected 237:19 285:14
realism 85:7	receive 153:14	recognizes 79:24 100:12	221:15 254:3, 22,23 255:16 256:19,24 258:19 263:1,8 268:10 279:10, 20 287:4 294:18 297:20 299:3	reflecting 244:8
reality 85:7 222:13	received 13:23 15:16 20:24 33:14 35:24 36:11,24 38:16 58:9 59:18 62:13 74:17 77:9 80:24 94:4 96:21 101:13 138:4 142:17 146:9 155:18 159:1 162:10 184:1 189:14 194:5 196:11 201:16 202:21 213:17 217:7 221:2 257:22 267:1 278:23 281:18 285:14 286:14	recognizing 54:25 138:6 213:19 294:17	221:15 254:3, 22,23 255:16 256:19,24 258:19 263:1,8 268:10 279:10, 20 287:4 294:18 297:20 299:3	reflection 54:15 241:15 247:9,10 248:12 251:18 293:8
realize 16:15 218:15 231:14 242:6 282:20		recommendatio n 86:16 130:22 151:8	221:15 254:3, 22,23 255:16 256:19,24 258:19 263:1,8 268:10 279:10, 20 287:4 294:18 297:20 299:3	reflections 42:1
realized 192:13 224:14		recommending 48:1	recorded 135:16	reflects 274:18
realizing 244:1		reconcile 289:15,21	recordings 20:7 37:23 61:21 80:6 100:20 145:12 161:13 195:14 285:22	reform 78:23
realm 22:3 27:18 44:2, 3		reconciliation 289:22	20:7 37:23 61:21 80:6 100:20 145:12 161:13 195:14 285:22	refreshing 47:22 117:7
realms 207:10		reconciling 289:21	20:7 37:23 61:21 80:6 100:20 145:12 161:13 195:14 285:22	regard 19:8,9 28:18 29:1 44:15 113:7 208:5,8 227:16 251:20
reared 45:25		record 6:15,20 12:10, 24 14:10,13,14 21:11 31:1,16 32:6,20 34:3,6 39:8 48:10 55:13 56:4,18 57:7 63:1 72:4, 20 73:10,23 74:7 75:19,21 79:20 81:19 91:23 92:17 93:6 95:1,3 102:5 104:24 109:6 136:7,21 137:10 139:8, 11,14 146:22 147:6 149:3 152:23 153:16,	recuse 37:5,12 160:24	regarded 64:16 130:13
rearranged 115:10	receiving 6:21 153:21		reduce 99:12	registration 219:12 235:16
reason 46:18 59:9 98:17 130:20 237:21 248:2 253:4 254:6	recently 45:2 284:15		reductionist 223:5	regret 218:2 249:15
reasonable 54:9 99:17 161:7 176:10	reception 294:13		reelected 20:2	regretted 247:1
reasoning 90:2	recital 277:22		reelection 13:11 56:8	regularly 176:15 251:10
reasons 127:19 249:2 283:5	recite 253:2		reference 47:9,14 71:8 151:23	reigns 174:25
recall 126:13 202:12,	recited 86:13		referenced 48:9	reinforce 226:9
	recognize 6:25 14:2 33:18 58:12 75:14		referencing 87:22	
			referring 252:1	

reinforced 226:14	254:4 297:20	rent 227:11,13 229:15	64:1,11 65:1,21 66:16 83:6,7 112:21,22,25 113:3,10,13,20 114:2,15,19,25 115:13,17,19 116:7,11 117:6, 24 118:5,10,22, 25 119:2,4,11, 17,20,25 120:8, 12,15,22 121:5, 7,17 122:4,13, 17,21,25 123:4, 7,10,13,16,20 148:9,11,13,16, 20 149:11,16, 18,21,23 150:4 168:22 230:14, 15,18 233:2,7, 17 234:5,9,13, 21,24 235:20 236:14,16,18 237:1,3,8,11,24 238:13 239:9, 15,21 240:2,6 242:16 243:2 244:7,16 245:19 246:8,12 287:12,13,15, 17,20 288:7,9, 19 289:1,8,11, 18,24 290:5,7,9 291:3,9,11,17, 20 292:1,12,16, 19,23 293:4,7, 11,14,18,21 295:22 298:20	165:20 226:3
related 167:5,19 227:6	remainder 277:11 279:20	repeated 275:15	representing 225:12	
relations 27:6,7 230:8	remarkable 201:11	rental 273:25	reprimand 195:6	
relationship 37:8 126:24 127:25 133:3	remarks 44:10	repeatedly 40:17	reprimanded 191:6 200:12	
relationships 40:13,21 288:5	remember 40:16 41:16 50:2 63:11 64:6 65:5 68:15 87:21 98:23 99:2 103:4 148:13,16 149:11 170:17 260:19 290:18 294:5,12	repetitive 227:7	reprimands 195:4	
relative 43:2 86:8	remind 30:19 55:6 71:22 90:22 121:21 122:8 126:3 135:7 180:22 210:5 253:21 297:11	replete 48:9 151:23	reproach 274:15	
relatives 230:9	reminded 47:17 235:21 294:6	report 17:4,8,11 31:2 36:10,21 55:15 61:9 72:6 97:14 152:24 180:2 181:6 191:19 210:15 248:22 254:5 297:21	reputation 15:7 19:22 37:17 54:6,12 59:6 61:13 79:18 100:5 145:7 151:21 161:5 190:23 193:25 194:16, 20 204:1 206:25 219:19 275:7,9, 17 280:4 281:7 285:11	
relayed 20:12 38:3 62:1 80:11 100:25 145:17 161:18 195:19 220:10 286:2	remiss 86:21 105:1 106:15 151:7 295:25 296:20	reported 37:14 79:13 100:2 219:17 248:15	request 47:14 192:17 244:18 256:1	
release 31:2 55:14 72:5 135:15 152:23 181:6 210:13,14 254:4 297:20	renaissance 147:10	reporter 121:24 252:8 260:20	requesting 283:14	
relied 16:18 189:8	render 15:11 29:12	reporting 248:18	required 40:12 124:6 186:24 204:25	
relocate 142:5 188:21	rendered 17:7	reports 248:19 249:1	requirement 273:22	
relocation 142:2 158:16 187:20 188:17, 21	rendering 16:4,13	Representative 192:20	requirements 14:16 34:7 75:23 95:5 139:15 156:14 186:9 215:2	
rely 17:24 141:13	renders 15:21 34:12 76:4 95:9	represent 140:7,15 142:15 152:10 157:12	requires 44:6 77:24 124:1 189:12 272:17 295:8	
relying 248:19		representative 6:6 24:3,4,7,15, 25 25:12 51:12 53:21 54:21 63:6,8,11,15		
remain 31:1 55:13 72:5 77:18 98:5 152:23 181:5		representatives 108:21,24 132:13		
		represented 36:18 39:23 140:14 157:22		

requisite 28:1 185:11	232:6	158:10 159:21	153:23 193:11	revision 266:16
research 22:4,9,11,16 28:1	resolved 24:19 76:12,23 175:6 189:3 191:25 192:2	160:7 179:18 182:22 190:1 191:1 194:18 217:18 218:19 237:16 239:16 242:18 262:2 267:24 268:2 270:9 274:18 278:25 282:6 294:17 296:5	299:1 retain 168:6 retired 9:19 10:24 30:7 121:16 124:23 170:19,20 retirement 142:12 retiring 124:23 reunited 176:2 reveal 275:19 revealed 274:23 285:15 revelation 230:22 revenue 26:19 225:15 review 22:19 32:10 73:14 74:13 97:15 136:25 154:14 155:13 182:17 191:12 212:9 213:11 233:21 255:20 278:24 reviewed 21:7 36:12 39:3 62:22 78:16 81:12 102:1 103:10 146:18 162:19 191:9 196:20 198:21 221:11 261:18 262:12 272:22 286:24	revisit 16:24 rewarded 47:24 rewarding 215:16 rewrite 18:2 Richland 23:12,19 40:1 69:21 70:5 82:11 165:21 222:10 Richter 169:23 rights 27:10 117:10 140:16 157:24 271:19 273:3 277:8 rigor 274:5 rigorously 271:13 roads 51:7 Robbie 294:10 robe 49:7,18 52:7 223:3 Robert 46:18 role 77:3,23,24 83:8 84:25 96:2 144:2 174:12 175:2 222:12 223:2 295:1
reservations 70:16 223:13	resources 173:25 174:4	responses 59:12 123:22 197:22 202:15, 16,19,23 206:9 241:10 272:23 277:21 292:13 293:1		
reset 254:20	respect 40:19 45:5,6 69:12 90:4 97:24 125:5,24 131:5,6 176:22, 23 178:11,24 190:6 239:6 257:1 259:17 279:1 284:10 285:16	responsibility 48:13 79:22 86:10 133:21 238:4 274:15		
reside 139:9,10 156:7 185:24 186:3 214:19,20	respected 54:7 159:8 284:9,10	responsible 125:14		
residence 75:24 95:6 139:16 156:15 186:10 215:3 219:11 237:19	respectful 36:2 134:8 159:7 164:25 165:18	responsibly 205:1		
residences 239:19	respectfully 271:24 295:3	rest 72:14 91:13 181:15 193:14 229:14		
residency 14:17 218:17,20 219:8,14 228:25 235:13,15 273:10	respond 18:21 48:15 60:17 84:4 190:2 200:23 208:2,13 243:18 284:6 290:17	restrained 165:19		
resident 238:3 239:11,12 271:2	responded 272:23	result 88:21 143:17 144:6 264:12, 22,23		
residents 34:8	responding 190:4	resulted 294:23		
residing 106:4	response 16:4 17:19 44:25 77:19 78:5 84:10 85:23 97:5 98:6 104:14 143:3	results 259:6		
resigned 41:16		resume 6:18 31:18		
resolution 140:12 192:13 270:15				
resolutions 171:23				
resolve 172:15 188:24 189:6 190:14				

roles 170:25 179:4	220:3,15 224:19 262:16,20 267:14 272:2, 16,19 273:18 274:3 275:19 276:18 285:20	runaway 175:1	safely 135:22 153:6,8 254:15	83:13 98:15,16 99:1 147:18 149:4 215:10 231:13,15 269:16
roll 83:10		running 9:7 64:13 106:19 107:2 108:7,8,25 120:24 121:6 148:24 149:7 202:17 235:13, 24 236:5	sake 265:3 268:13	
Roman 261:25 263:23 267:16 269:1	ruled 67:18		salient 82:21	SCI 236:23 237:21
Ronald 10:9	rules 23:3 38:9 71:8 76:14 78:12,17 80:17 97:10 101:6 112:3 145:23 161:24 169:14 195:25 220:16 223:25 260:1 271:11 273:17 280:23	runs 27:2 42:15 179:8 189:4	samples 25:20 179:22,25	score 203:1,5
rooftops 272:14		rural 39:15 65:24	sanctions 174:18 272:5,19	scoring 32:13
room 31:15 74:23 91:22 106:17 127:11 138:9 157:2 177:1,5 181:20 199:17 213:21 216:15 218:6 248:22 284:12	ruling 18:1 22:20 60:13 244:17 268:16 282:4, 12,19 283:4 284:2	rushing 274:17	sand 50:16	Scott 135:3
root 274:4		Ruzicka 257:11 258:9, 10,11,12,15,20, 21 259:12,22,25 260:4,9 261:1,4 269:23 270:20, 24 275:22,23,25 276:4,8,10,12 278:7,8,12 279:2,8,13	sanity 232:20	Scout 125:15 134:24
Rosa 144:8	rulings 16:3 18:21 25:3, 5 59:24 61:4 68:4,6 266:21 282:23		sat 45:10 53:9 97:16,17 111:17,19,20 204:21 216:6 224:13 231:10	SCRCP 273:18
round 172:17			satisfaction 51:7	screams 28:24 272:14
route 46:10			satisfied 86:14 240:3	screen 122:19 271:13 286:16
rubber 83:9 264:4,15 266:7	run 15:2 44:6 65:16 88:18,23 89:20 107:13,20 108:10,20 111:14 125:5,6, 23 169:4 173:17,19 179:16 188:15 219:9,13 223:11 235:25 242:5 249:8,17,23 260:16		savory 222:5	screened 88:15 106:23 197:9 235:22
rude 284:11 285:2		S	scale 203:1	screeener 124:4
rule 20:4 22:15 35:19 37:21 38:8 49:14 61:19 80:3,16 97:1 100:17 101:5 145:10,22 161:10,23 190:5 195:11,24		Sabb 294:10	scared 231:6 250:12	screening 14:11 20:21 21:1 30:18,25 32:21 38:18,22 55:4,12,20 56:6 62:10,15 71:21 72:4,23,24 81:1, 5 90:21 91:3,25 101:15,19 135:6,13 136:9 143:15 146:6,11 149:18 152:13, 22 160:14 162:7,12 180:19 181:4,18,23
		sabotage 272:9	schedule 134:17 136:1	
		sacred 271:12	schedules 79:7	
		safe 254:15 281:12	scheduling 77:5 79:6 89:3	
		safeguard 271:17	scholarly 274:3	
		safeguards 272:18	school 42:5 49:21	

193:11 196:8,13 210:4,12 211:5, 6 220:24 221:4 234:11 246:14 248:21 253:18 254:2 261:7 270:11 286:11 297:10,18 299:1	47:17 68:5 seatmates 129:23 seats 7:3 179:17 229:3 seconded 6:8 153:13 192:21 298:20 secret 50:5 section 20:19 21:9 38:20 39:5 62:8 81:3,14 101:17 102:3 110:25 146:4 162:5,21 196:6,22 220:22 221:13 232:15 265:11 266:5 272:16 286:9 sections 110:19 security 64:19 seek 108:2 132:7 seeking 262:3 segregate 86:6 selected 103:19 131:13 Selection 6:5 13:14 33:5 57:25 74:8 93:18 137:19 155:8 183:17 213:7 257:12 self- 264:9	self-discipline 274:16 self-evaluation 293:7 self-executing 264:10 self-reflection 143:14 241:6 seminal 247:15 seminar 26:1 Senate 70:4 199:22 281:15 senator 6:9 23:12,19,23 25:24,25 26:5, 11,13,15,21,25 27:2,5,10,22 28:15,16,22 29:19 30:2,6 44:8,9 47:7,8 48:4 66:17,18, 20,22 67:8,11 69:3,21,22,25 70:10 82:1,2,5,9 83:6,11,22 84:8 85:23 86:25 87:19,20,21 88:12,18 105:11,12,15, 18,22 106:21 107:1,6,9,13,15, 21,23,25 108:2, 4,16 109:1,20, 21,22 110:3,10, 13,22,24 111:3, 9,12,15,25 112:10,13,15,19 119:12 124:14, 15,18 125:25	126:6,8,11,13, 16,19,24 127:3 128:2,7,9,13,24 129:11,22 130:9,15,17 131:24 134:6 150:7,8,15 151:4,13 170:7, 8,13,17,22 171:1,3,13,19, 24 172:21 173:1,12 174:4, 21 175:18 176:24 177:12, 13,14,17 178:9 179:18 192:22 197:4,6,11,14, 16 198:3,7,9,11, 23 199:3,6,8 200:3,16,18,22 201:1,3,6,13,15, 23,25 202:4,7,9, 11 203:19 206:1,4,13,18 208:25 221:21, 22,25 225:2 226:5 248:24 293:24,25 294:2,10 295:12,20 298:15 send 208:4 sending 208:3 senior 134:7 sense 59:24 223:16 228:20 229:10 247:21,23 279:19	sentence 29:12 276:19 277:16 sentenced 175:24 Sentencing 276:16 sentiment 87:25 separate 52:3,4 85:11 207:2 281:14 291:5 separation 35:13 44:12,18 series 170:25 servant 109:17 serve 14:6 20:2 36:4,6 45:19 55:1 58:23 83:22 109:8 139:18 140:4,10,24 141:4 151:1 152:9 156:17,22 157:5,13 158:7 160:3 186:12, 20,23 187:3,4,9, 10,13 203:2 205:9,15 215:5 216:4 222:25 226:1 271:16 287:21 served 26:16 30:15 35:14 51:25 52:9 157:20 160:16 179:3 209:12,13,25 222:10 263:4
---	--	---	--	---

serves 103:1	176:1	sharing 25:22 227:3	15,18,23 127:1, 7 128:6,8,12,20	side 42:10 84:23
service 15:4 24:5 26:7, 8,21 27:2 30:14, 16 31:9 35:7,9 42:1,8,20 48:19 53:19 55:3,21, 22 72:12,13 79:20 82:6 84:3, 5 90:16 91:11, 12 105:16 106:13 109:7,15 113:1 123:21 124:11 134:21, 22 144:3,15 151:6 156:1 180:21 181:14 210:23 236:19 254:12,13 262:6,7,19,21 287:18 298:4,6	set 43:21 118:25 140:1 164:9 246:15 249:4 264:3 set-aside 169:1 sets 114:8 setting 168:20 184:19 settle 172:9,19 settled 192:16 settlement 70:11 177:10 180:8 settler 26:22 sex 158:3 sexually 215:11 shameless 23:18 shape 45:17 226:23 shaped 39:15 share 54:2 87:25 90:8 151:17 157:9 177:18 180:7 207:5 226:15 270:18 296:21 shared 253:3 292:7 Sharepoint 25:18,19	sharpened 88:19 Shaw 142:7 She'd 159:12 sheet 8:10 sheets 7:10 22:1 25:21 97:11 111:10 Shelton 79:23 92:1,2,4, 7,9,13,18,22 93:1,4,7 94:10 95:4,8 96:21 100:1,2,9,13 101:3,8 102:12, 24 105:8,13,14, 17,21 106:20,25 107:5,8,12,14, 16,22,24 108:1, 3,5,17 109:2,14, 22 110:2,9,12, 17,23 111:1,4, 11,14,17 112:2, 12,14,18,20,24 113:2,9,12,19, 25 114:3,18,23 115:2,16,18 116:1,9,12 117:20 118:4,6, 12,24 119:1,3,7, 16,18,24 120:5, 11,14,16 121:2, 6,11,19 122:1, 16,20,23 123:2, 6,8,12,15,19 124:12,17,25 126:4,7,10,12,	129:2,15 130:8, 14,16,18 132:25 134:14,15 135:1,18,23 shielded 169:16 shifted 207:22 shifting 144:17 ship 223:11 shocks 277:18 shoes 234:18 short 17:2 34:10 150:4 271:24 short- 87:9 shortcuts 274:19 shot 22:9 shoulder 294:8 show 97:14 166:5 180:11,12 245:18 262:16 268:20 272:2,19 284:5 showing 7:10 191:7 275:15 shown 272:14 shows 90:4 164:14	89:17 99:19 103:10 106:9 112:1 123:17 150:10,23 176:18 218:14 266:8 283:14,20 side's 174:16 sided 266:21 sides 44:2 60:12,14 68:3 85:16 100:10 142:25 161:8 217:22 signals 72:18 signed 262:9 272:25 significance 179:23 significant 109:25 180:16 signify 6:9 8:6,7,13,25 9:11,23 10:4,10, 16 11:1,2,14 192:22 signing 274:17 similar 288:15,17 296:14 similarly 172:3 266:20 simple 157:17 simply 17:22 37:5 87:10 132:6
sessions 42:10,13,19 44:2 88:7 106:4 129:14 172:2				

251:17 259:20 simultaneously 277:24 sincerity 251:18 single 163:21 185:3 194:1 201:7 sir 12:2,4,9,15,19, 22 13:7,12 14:7 20:11,14,18 21:2,17,21 22:24 23:6 24:14 25:11 26:10,14 27:1,4, 9,21 28:14,21 29:18 30:1,5,12 31:5,6,22,23 32:15,18,22 33:23 37:13 41:21 55:18,25 56:10,23 57:2,5, 8 63:25 72:10 73:2,18,21,24 82:4 83:21 87:14 91:9 92:2, 4,22 93:1,4,7 105:8,21 106:20,25 107:5,8,12,22, 24 108:1,3,5 110:2,9,12 111:11 112:14, 18,24 113:2,9, 12,19 114:18 119:24 120:11, 14,16 124:17 126:10,12,18,23 127:2,7 128:6,8, 12,23 129:15 130:8,14,16,18 135:18 136:12	137:1,8 139:3 141:25 143:23 145:19,24 146:7,12,17,21 147:2,9 148:8, 19,22 149:17,22 150:2,6 151:15 152:14 153:3 182:7,18,23 184:21 185:15, 19 199:7 200:5, 24 201:5,24 202:8 206:3,12 211:1,11 212:10,14,17,21 214:4 227:14 230:4,11 242:13 247:7 254:10 255:8 256:13,20 258:2 264:1,2 270:22 276:9 278:13 287:10 293:22 298:2 sister 228:1 sit 16:12,23 53:9 66:11 68:21 144:21 177:3 218:11 223:3 sitting 44:19 60:10 86:22 104:21 111:16 128:9,10 129:3,5 179:6 294:3,7 situation 43:1 68:24 118:19 168:25 230:25 233:18 283:23 situations 60:3,5 68:14	241:10,18 sixth 231:8 skewed 233:18 skies 297:3 skill 140:1 skills 30:8 35:6 77:7 87:4 187:5 slammed 234:7,8,22 SLED 36:10,21 191:19 sleep 277:8 slots 178:3,4,6,9 small 34:18,19 96:12 111:5 smaller 40:2 smart 71:4 77:13,15 89:24 104:17,19 124:7 142:24 150:17,24 151:24,25 217:11 smiling 74:22 smooth 42:15,22 149:21 smoothly 149:19 social 133:6 society	203:15 249:12 250:1 socioeconomic 250:19 solace 71:14 sold 268:11 269:9 sole 144:9 solely 295:10 solicitor 88:3 113:4,17 115:24 117:12 119:1,15,20,21 120:25 121:17 123:10 126:21 128:10 130:6 132:12 134:7 solicitor's 114:21 129:25 131:19 132:3 216:8 solicitors 43:20 131:16 solicits 275:8 solidified 247:12 soliloquy 87:15 solo 60:19 166:24 207:11 Solutions 191:22 solve 190:15 207:18, 21 solver 190:12	sons 134:24 sort 42:17 64:1,3 65:1 85:9 96:2, 6,9 97:21 106:16 141:1 149:7 223:11 233:13 247:9 251:6 sorts 104:22 181:9 247:25 SOS 72:18 sought 20:24 38:16 62:13 80:24 101:13 146:9 162:10 196:11 221:2 286:14 sound 63:13 89:25 90:1 204:2 298:17 sounded 110:10 sounds 148:21 201:10 238:10,11,13 source 104:8 South 15:6,24 21:8 27:13 31:9 34:17 38:8 39:4, 20 62:23 65:24 80:16 81:13 101:5 102:2 142:8 145:22 146:19 151:1 161:23 162:20
--	---	---	---	--

185:7 194:7,8 195:24 196:21 210:23 220:15 221:12 254:12 265:10 268:14, 15 271:2,19 272:15 273:4,21 274:10 275:4,17 277:3 280:1 286:25 298:4	specialize 65:15 specialty 65:5 specific 141:23 272:18 273:22 288:1 290:17 293:1 specifically 125:23 141:23 158:12 188:9 216:21 244:5 266:14 279:8 283:12 specificity 282:23 speculating 208:12 speed 112:5 164:1 spend 88:4 89:6 95:19 96:11 spent 76:24 79:5,9 95:20,22 97:9 216:12 spirit 30:21 55:8 71:25 90:25 135:10 152:18 180:25 210:8 253:24 297:14 splendid 126:24 spoke 120:24 126:20 127:20 spoken 232:14 261:6 spring 149:1	springing 169:2 stability 19:19 37:19 61:16 79:15 100:8 145:4 161:3 193:22 194:12 219:22 285:8 staff 6:25 13:7 14:3 26:17 33:4 39:9 57:9 58:13 74:6 75:14 76:18 81:21 89:22 93:17 94:8 102:7 137:18 155:7,23 183:15 184:5 213:6,19 225:16 256:21 staff's 239:17 stage 280:25 stakes 225:22 stamp 83:10 stamped 264:5,15 stamping 266:7 stance 250:20 stand 46:6 56:2 91:20 132:19 133:11 248:13 254:19 standard 269:13 standards 89:25 104:25	131:9 191:11 271:25 274:2,14 standing 68:18 191:16 203:15 250:19 263:14 277:3 standpoint 125:19,21 235:7 stands 252:4 star 125:16 171:2 start 59:1 94:18 115:9 125:9 148:1 167:15 177:4 184:22 261:24 started 27:5 43:6,10 82:10 95:12 97:12 105:23 120:5 143:7 148:2,6 207:24 215:15 218:21, 22 231:16 264:14 state 12:9 13:20 14:6 15:5 27:12 29:15 30:14 31:9 32:6 33:12 36:6 54:24 55:21 56:18 58:5 60:1 69:10, 13 72:12 73:9 74:15 82:6 83:4 84:15 86:5 88:8 92:16 94:3 107:23 113:11 116:17 136:20 137:25 139:8	140:2,25 141:11 142:3 146:10 154:10 155:15 156:5 172:21 174:13 182:12 183:22 185:23 187:10 188:20 199:18 200:13 205:16 210:23 211:18 213:13, 22 214:18 218:24 219:1 222:14 230:6 235:6,11 239:4 254:12 255:15 256:4 257:18 258:18 267:19 268:1,14 280:1 298:4 state's 14:25 135:10 152:5,18 stated 19:23 36:7 79:19 189:19 194:1 219:22 261:16 267:2 281:22 283:12 285:12 statement 12:17 13:6 14:1 32:13 33:3,17 56:25 57:20 58:12 73:16 74:5,21 75:12 92:24 93:16 94:7 137:3,17 138:8,23 139:2 154:17 155:6,21 174:22 182:20 183:14 184:4 212:12 213:5 214:10 249:7
--	---	---	---	--

252:3 257:8 283:8 statements 28:19 status 48:13 97:17 111:21,22 statusing 24:10 statute 78:23 179:12 289:23 statutes 49:15 statutorily 238:1 statutory 14:16 34:7 75:23 95:5 139:15 156:14 186:9 215:2 258:25 Stavrinakis 7:17,22 24:3,4, 7,15,25 25:12 51:11,12 53:22 54:21 83:6 112:21,22,25 113:3,10,13,20 114:2,15,19,25 115:13,17,19 116:7,11 117:6, 24 118:5,10,22, 25 119:2,4,11, 17,20,25 120:8, 12,15,22 121:5, 7,17 122:4,13, 17,21,25 123:4, 7,10,13,16,20 236:15,16,18 237:1,3,8,11,24 238:13 239:9,	15,21 240:2,6 242:16 243:2 244:7,16 245:19 246:8,12 287:12,13,15, 17,20 288:7,9, 19 289:1,8,11, 18,24 290:5,7,9 291:3,9,11,17, 20 292:1,12,16, 19,23 293:4,7, 11,14,18,21 295:22 298:21 stay 97:19 141:16 219:2,6 240:24 249:21 260:14 288:5,24 289:2, 9,12,16 290:1,3 291:1 stayed 42:6 111:23 236:4 staying 153:7 250:15 Stegmaier 14:10 41:1,22, 23,25 147:3,4,6, 10,14,16 153:13 227:4,6,9,13,15, 24 228:3,7,12, 17,21,23 229:5, 11,13,19,21,23, 25 230:2,7,10, 12 234:25 stellar 54:11 step 109:19 124:18 125:17 127:11 193:3 212:2 231:24 246:20	252:20 Stephanie 9:7,10 Stephen 10:24 11:9 stepping 226:11 steps 110:4 Steven 56:14,19 sticks 82:21 stiff 132:22 stop 152:12 174:20 216:17,18 236:3 story 98:14 245:22 straight 58:13 214:14 straightened 192:3 strains 96:12 stream 20:6 37:23 61:21 80:5 100:19 145:12 195:13 220:5 285:22 Street 199:17 strenuous 277:20 stress 225:14 232:10 241:3,7 296:16 stressful 225:10 241:18	stressors 240:22 Strickland 41:2,3,8,11,13, 20 222:9 strict 275:3 277:5 strictly 223:25 strike 243:4 strikes 84:22 223:12 248:1 strive 240:12 295:4 strong 19:25 96:25 99:22 276:13 292:3 strongest 96:17 strongly 273:11 struggles 82:13 106:11 stuck 152:1 students 125:13 studied 110:15 study 13:18,21 33:9 58:4,7 74:12,16 93:22 138:2 155:16 183:21, 24 188:6 213:15 257:16,20 studying 89:15 97:9	stuff 104:18 267:6 stupid 174:17 style 68:9 subject 16:10 180:6 submit 18:14 271:24 283:7,17 288:21 submitted 12:18 17:11 32:14 57:1 73:16 92:25 137:4 154:18 179:23 180:9 182:21 212:13 223:25 259:8 261:14,18,20 262:8 264:5 272:21 274:6 283:4 submitting 20:15,23 38:11, 15 62:4,12 80:19,23 101:8, 12 114:23 145:25 146:8 162:1,9 196:2, 10 220:18 221:1 286:5,13 subparagraph 269:1 subscribe 248:16 substantial 277:9 subtracting 168:12 success 23:16
---	---	--	--	--

successful 69:1 105:7 109:7 131:12 172:6,18 201:8 235:25	144:6 148:18, 24,25 149:8,24 150:18,21	173:6	211:15 212:12 213:5 255:12 257:8 258:15	talked 67:21 103:25 108:7,8,13,14, 17,18,19,21,22, 23 121:1,2,3 124:20 176:8
sudden 277:24	sunny 138:18,19,21	survey 13:18 33:9 58:3 59:20 74:12 82:20 93:23 96:23 137:24 142:20 151:19 155:14 159:3 177:18 183:20 189:16 197:21 213:12 221:25 257:17 281:20 296:2	system 15:1 42:15 43:7, 15,17,18 69:16, 20 83:16,18 84:14,24 85:3, 12,13 86:4 95:24 98:20 115:12 131:7 163:23 238:20 275:10 296:18	talking 22:6 83:12 112:3 115:24 166:19 168:14 200:3 202:20 230:20 237:2 293:5
suddenly 277:10	superb 59:22	surveys 15:17,18 28:19 35:24,25 36:9 59:19 77:10,11 96:22 142:18 159:2 189:15 202:10 217:8,9 275:18 281:19	systematic 266:10	talks 234:2
suggest 24:22 87:7 172:23 266:3	superlative 48:11 86:3	survivor 142:13	systems 84:14	taller 184:18
suggested 177:2 288:2	supervisor 119:9	Susan 75:7	<hr/> T <hr/>	Tarita 254:25 255:12, 17 271:3 282:15
suggestion 23:13 86:16 105:2	support 134:1 159:15 291:5	suspect 104:23	table 97:9	tarnishes 275:17
suggestions 69:4	suppose 65:21	sustains 277:20	takes 78:23 116:22 241:5	tasks 77:6
suggests 262:18 274:21	supposed 115:6,9 175:5 177:9	swear 257:24	taking 64:7 75:16 97:12 104:18 136:4 150:20 174:25 206:2 252:15	taste 209:22
suicide 225:3,5	supposition 129:12	swore 266:11	talent 178:18	taught 40:11 147:20 173:7 216:16
suit 144:9 192:8	suppress 117:18	sworn 12:6,17 13:6 32:2 33:3 56:14, 25 57:20 73:6, 15 74:5 92:13, 24 93:16 136:17 137:3,17 154:6, 17 155:6 182:9, 20 183:14	talented 124:7 151:24	teacher 95:14
suited 35:6 59:4	suppression 118:8,14,15,17		talents 253:11	teams 149:25
summary 19:23 34:11 78:14 79:19 145:9 194:1 219:22 222:11, 13,16,19 285:12	Supreme 8:23 23:2 118:2 191:6		talk 63:21 68:23 102:20 121:23 151:11 249:16 260:22	teenage 125:9
summation 252:6	surely 241:18			teenagers 108:11
summer 97:9 124:22 125:2	surgery 191:24 208:10			telling 54:3 203:15 205:13,22
Sumter 39:23 40:4 139:10 140:19 142:7 143:18	surprise 64:15,20 67:19			temper 287:23
	surprised 143:6 290:11			
	surprises 69:4			
	surprising 190:20 194:23			
	surrounded			

temperament 15:25 19:23 20:1 29:2 36:4 37:17 47:20 54:4,8 61:13 77:14,16 79:19 90:1,2 98:6 99:19,25 100:6 145:8 158:7 159:5 161:6 178:15 189:23 193:25 194:13 203:10,22 217:17 219:20, 24 222:6 240:7 276:13 278:5 285:12	tenure 273:5 term 17:12 48:3 68:16 69:3 87:10 127:18 termination 140:16 157:24 terms 18:25 47:19 54:14 171:8 172:3 174:5 199:13 201:17 202:4,9,19 204:1 259:5 264:25 289:13, 20 terrible 17:9 terribly 207:23 test 233:13 testifies 12:8 32:4 56:16 73:8 92:15 136:19 154:8 182:11 211:17 255:14 258:17 testify 13:25 33:16 58:11 74:19 94:6 138:6 155:20 184:3 213:19 257:24 testimony 14:13 34:4 75:20 95:2 139:12 156:11 186:6 214:24 269:8,17 270:8 277:12 278:24	text 208:4,14 textbook 44:16 texting 248:24,25 thankful 43:14 149:6,10 thankfully 271:14 thanking 85:22 281:6 thankless 294:19 themselves 164:20 theory 63:15 thing 18:10,12 25:17 28:24 42:2 43:1 49:12 52:12 53:16 59:15 60:25 64:14 65:7 68:20 70:17 89:12 99:11,13 105:22 109:17 144:12 147:23 163:18 179:22 198:19 207:1 224:17,25 228:4 231:2,11, 15 234:15 238:24 243:5,20 250:16 266:24 267:14 284:1 295:8 things 16:20 29:20 42:22,24 46:18 54:17,18,19 63:17,19 64:18	66:2 86:19,20, 22 96:3 97:21 103:10 104:22 110:8,14 122:21 123:3 125:12 127:12 135:20 147:21,24 148:4,14 163:12 168:16 174:17 175:9 176:7 177:7 181:9 186:22 189:13 195:8 197:17 199:23 203:7, 12,16,21 204:10 217:23 218:9, 13,14 223:21 225:19 231:12, 20 235:25 241:15 242:22 243:2,3 244:1 246:15,25 247:21,25 248:2,11,23 260:16 289:20 291:24 293:8 296:8,16 thinking 65:22 95:17 102:13 178:6 240:21 thinks 103:5 third-party 169:9 Thomas 10:3 Thompson 136:22 142:22 152:2 thorny 22:17	thought 16:6 23:1 35:4 40:6,19 68:23 70:12 78:20 89:3 104:15,19 113:6 180:1 205:20 247:8 259:19 263:15 thoughtful 15:20 170:2 thoughtfulness 60:4 100:11 thoughts 50:14 270:19 threatening 276:17 throw 29:19 53:1 thrown 208:23 214:1 tie 273:5 tight 223:11 time 17:3,10 29:9,17, 25 40:8 42:4 43:25 46:20 59:2 60:6,20,21 61:2,7 67:3 69:14 70:3 75:16 79:5,9 84:11 87:24 88:4,16,22 89:7, 9,13 90:14 91:15 94:11,12, 18 95:23 96:11, 15 108:14 112:11,17,22 116:2 118:7 120:4 121:13 125:6 131:1,15,
--	--	---	---	---

16 134:16 136:5 138:21 140:6 143:10 144:12 149:7,19 150:11 151:2 168:5 171:7,14,20 174:15 175:7, 13,25 181:13 185:10 187:18, 23,25 194:21 198:3,6 200:8 201:21 202:18 207:4 216:23 217:20 218:4,7, 12 219:4,15 222:21 223:8,20 224:23,24 225:24 229:3,7, 9,20 230:23 231:2,16,24 232:12,21 233:20,23 234:19 235:22 239:22,23 245:3,10,16 246:18,23 247:13 249:16 252:16,20 255:25 259:19, 20 260:21 267:19 269:25 270:25 271:8 277:10,24 278:11,21 279:1 280:9 282:14, 22,24 294:5,6 timely 76:20 times 22:16 24:18 28:17 29:13 49:6 53:11 94:1 95:15 96:15	118:16,18 135:4 158:6 168:6 218:1,5 248:1 261:6 tip 29:22 240:23 tips 16:19 tireless 54:9 today 6:5,18 7:21 20:10 21:15 38:1 39:11 61:24 63:4 75:7, 17 80:9 81:22 100:23 102:9 134:16 135:21 145:15 146:25 153:24 161:16 163:1 176:24 190:9 191:17 195:17 197:2 201:23 203:18 208:2 210:24 212:4 213:22 214:6,8 220:8 221:18 245:6 250:11 251:1 252:22 254:15, 24 259:21 278:22,25 279:9 285:25 287:8 298:15 today's 11:24 told 67:3 99:4 108:13 131:10 176:2 177:3 209:18,19 232:16 245:22	282:15 284:19 Tom 147:17 Tommy 30:4 tomorrow 298:16,19 299:1 ton 233:15 tone 68:7 tonight 270:15 Tony 189:19 tool 24:22 top 121:3 268:4 torn 176:2 240:8 tort 78:23 total 128:20,21 202:19,23 206:10 293:15 totality 110:24 totally 116:19 234:21, 24 totem 222:16 touch 66:5 67:11 touched 158:9 186:15 touches 197:20,23	touching 67:17 tough 40:17 233:5 240:22,23 241:1 tougher 59:1 town 34:19 track 43:19 226:23 trafficking 158:4 tragic 201:8 trailblazer 27:10 trained 46:4 training 46:7 96:5 269:16 trajectory 282:21 transcript 207:6 262:13 263:6 267:23 269:8 transcripts 68:1 128:3 transferable 87:4 transform 243:9 transition 59:1 translate 157:16 transpired 233:22 Trask	94:14,21,23 95:1 102:5 Trask's 104:14 travel 135:22 142:3 153:6,8 210:25 218:24 230:5 235:10 254:14 treat 176:22 190:5,6 treated 120:18 165:25 166:3 190:7 225:21 250:17, 21,22 285:16 treatment 278:1 290:20 treats 274:24 tremendous 66:1 131:5,6 tremendously 219:24 trenches 207:9 trend 233:12 trepidation 258:7 trial 18:20 19:11 22:7,12,18 24:9, 13,16,18,19 25:2,13 44:5 46:24 60:7 61:2 68:7 76:9,15,25 77:25 79:7 85:5, 17 95:17,21 96:1 110:5 114:6,8,10 115:6 118:9,13,
---	--	---	---	---

14,16 167:25 168:2,4 172:4 175:7 208:5 trials 19:3 34:22 68:2 79:6 89:3 97:17 103:4 111:16, 17,18,19 171:25 172:1,3 tribute 90:5 tricky 60:5 troubled 236:21 troubling 243:14 true 67:8 83:1 84:13 85:9 147:10 204:10 231:21 trust 168:19 169:1,2, 9 226:2 271:17 trusts 168:16 truth 12:7,8 32:3,4 56:15,16 73:7,8 92:14,15 136:1, 18,19 154:7,8 182:10,11 211:16,17 255:13,14 258:16,17 TSP 142:13 Tuesday 6:5 turn 7:11 14:2 16:21 184:5 240:17	260:10 265:19 267:15 turned 17:5 turning 284:25 turns 121:22 246:10 Twenty-six 217:14 Twenty-three 82:9 type 15:19 95:24 103:17,21 143:11 157:13 158:20 205:12 types 66:7 141:14 142:15 180:11 typically 289:25 tyrant 272:15 <hr/> U <hr/> U.S. 23:2 ugly 176:13 Uh-huh 236:25 ultimate 18:23 205:3 225:21 ultimately 187:9 192:11 247:5 248:3 251:15 umbrage 109:2	Umsted 14:8,9,19 19:15 21:11 unable 85:10 unanimous 8:21 9:2,15 10:1,7,13,20 11:18 unanimously 8:16 84:19 unbiased 49:8 98:5,8 unbridledly 54:18 uncle 147:13 uncontested 274:6 uncontradicted 277:12 uncooperative 189:25 underlying 67:22 underscore 26:8 86:21 understand 21:7 28:10 31:4 35:16 39:3,14 46:25 51:7 55:17 60:18 62:22 67:10 69:9 71:4 72:9 76:14 77:25 81:12 83:2 89:9 91:7 96:12 97:6 98:8 102:1,21 103:16 109:14 127:7 130:19,20 131:20 146:18 153:2 162:19	175:10 179:13, 16 181:9 196:20 210:19 221:11 233:11,24 238:23 239:5,10 246:17 248:12 250:2 252:14 254:8 270:6 283:25 286:24 295:11 298:1 understanding 18:20 36:22 59:23 71:12 77:24 78:11,21 85:12 96:16,19 110:5 160:17 161:8 229:15 233:22 240:11 241:25 251:18 261:8,21 understands 28:9 159:11 217:13 understatement 107:10 understood 44:17 210:21 270:17 undertake 86:17 undertaking 87:13 undertakings 124:2 unduly 165:11 unfair 249:19 unfairly 243:6 unhealthy 67:25	unicorn 42:4 uniform 43:19 128:14 Union 76:10 unique 44:23 157:15 174:12 216:6 unlimited 259:18 unopposed 128:11 176:25 236:5 unpaid 277:10 unprecedented 128:13 unpredictability 296:3 unprepared 190:25 191:7,15 unprofessional 191:15 unqualified 194:8,14,19 200:9 203:23 204:1 230:24 247:5 248:15 unrepresented 274:24 unresponsive 190:25 206:19 208:15 unsavory 222:5 unshakeable 189:20 untoured 210:17 unusual
---	--	---	---	--

60:5	valuation	120:17	vocal	163:25 166:22
unverified	168:7	Vice	119:22	179:15 190:17
190:2	valuations	278:20	vocation	218:6 224:5,6
unwavering	158:24	victim's	139:23	233:4 250:18,20
275:6	valuing	132:24	voice	270:15
updated	189:10,11	victims	29:10 132:8	walked
141:16	Vanessa	99:9	190:8 209:5	230:24
updates	267:1 272:21	view	260:21	Walker
12:20 32:16	variety	23:20 30:22	voices	25:24,25 26:5,
57:3 73:19 93:2	124:1 180:12,13	45:7 55:9 72:1	274:21	11,13,15,21
137:6 154:20	212:3	91:1 98:20	voicing	27:2,5,10,22
182:24 212:15	varying	135:11 152:19	259:23	69:22,25 82:1,2,
256:11	28:22	181:1 197:24	volume	5,9 83:7,22
uphold	vast	210:9 253:24	42:13	86:25 105:11,
49:19 266:4	95:23 99:14,16	281:8 297:15	volumes	12,15,18,22
271:17 273:13	124:1 159:13	viewing	134:12	106:21 107:1,6,
upholding	verbal	203:2	volunteered	9,13,15,21,23,
97:1	165:17	views	90:10	25 108:2,4,16
upset	verbatim	180:5	vote	109:1,20 119:12
165:8 231:6	272:3	vindictive	8:3,21 9:20 11:6	150:7,8,15
245:9 250:12,	verdict	244:13	voter	177:13,14,17
13,24	25:21	violated	219:11 235:16	178:9 179:18
upstate	verification	209:6	votes	221:21,22,25
79:12 236:7	13:19 33:12	violates	6:22,23 11:7	225:2 226:5
239:2 248:16	58:5 74:14 94:2	272:10,15	153:22 193:10	Walker's
285:5 294:15	137:25 155:14	violation	voting	85:23
urge	183:21 213:12	30:23 55:10	7:1,10	waning
273:11	257:17	72:1 91:1	vulnerable	172:1
utmost	verified	135:11 152:19	157:22 271:20	wanted
173:9	194:6 201:17	181:1 210:10	vying	16:12,14 17:21
utterly	versed	297:17	107:6	21:22 23:7 53:1
284:9	85:3	violations		74:23 79:1
	version	253:25 279:14,	W	88:24 90:12
	272:4,25	18		95:17,18,19
	versus	violence	waive	98:17,18 99:4
vacation	241:20	288:4,25 289:4	58:15 214:11,13	102:13 109:18
190:19	veto	visitation	waived	110:7 130:7
vague	44:19	157:19	275:2	134:11 148:3
200:11	vetoes	visited	waiver	163:8 180:7,11
valuable	35:17	294:11	277:4,14	218:1 235:17
46:7 165:17	vetted	vividly	walk	240:21 262:22
186:19		103:5		270:2

wanting 142:5 236:20 287:20 295:2	Wayne 204:19 205:2	well- 159:7 285:8,13	wide 140:5,22	withering 132:20 133:11
wards 157:13	ways 48:8 50:8 76:8 134:12 135:5	well-qualified 161:3,9 219:17	wider 151:2	witnessed 60:2 176:3 271:2
warmed 105:9	176:13 189:6 190:15 241:8	well-reasoned 15:22	wife 138:15 148:25 149:2 153:5 201:8	witnesses 13:25 33:15 58:10 74:19 94:5 138:5 155:20 184:2 213:18
warned 278:6	253:8	well-rounded 157:11 159:9 188:4	wife's 264:6	women 178:10 179:3,5 208:21,22,24 209:1
warrant 264:23 265:7 279:14	weakness 226:25	well-versed 187:1 273:15	wild 103:5	wonderful 14:5 15:3 24:10, 22 31:7,11 32:8 46:15 75:18 94:16 104:8 135:19 142:22 149:2,6 151:12 153:4 170:1 173:8 181:12 184:19 214:15 218:12 224:22, 25 245:22 246:3 298:3
warranted 55:17	wealth 174:2	well-written 180:15,17	Wiley 10:16,21	wondering 241:17
warrants 276:18	wealthier 174:7	wellness 176:11	Wilkinson 58:17,19 61:8 63:1	wonk 50:23
waste 174:15,16	wear 52:7	whatsoever 12:25 277:14	willful 262:4 272:5 274:1 277:6	word 104:16 128:14, 24 129:1,18 134:3 177:25 248:5
wasting 175:12	wearing 49:18 234:18	Wheeler 31:19,23 32:2,7, 11,15,18,22,25 33:3,20 34:1,6, 10 35:23 36:3, 10,23 37:1,14 39:13,21 41:7, 10,12,15,21,23, 24 42:24 44:16 45:14,21 46:23 47:6 48:4,5 49:9 51:9,13 52:10, 21 53:8,20 54:5 55:18,24 65:23	William 10:15 32:2,7 36:23	words 46:19 251:25 275:6 297:2
watch 51:10 223:3	week 17:10 45:3 50:2 104:6 115:5,6 158:6 208:6 282:19	Wheeler's 34:5	willingness 30:10 109:23 197:18	wordy 248:10
watched 20:8 37:25 61:23 76:16,21 79:8 80:8 89:2 100:21 129:24 145:14 161:14 195:16 220:7 285:24	weeks 175:19 209:9	whispers 275:13	Wilson 119:21	
watching 20:6 37:22 61:20 67:23 78:24 79:5,9 80:5 100:19 129:24 130:1 132:18 145:11 161:12 195:13 220:4 285:21 294:3	weigh 15:12	white 79:1 225:6	window 138:20 277:2	
water 173:2	weighs 45:3	wholeheartedly 52:10	wink 213:25	
	weight 30:24 55:11 72:3 91:3 106:15 135:12 152:21 181:3 210:12 297:18	wholesome 273:2	wisdom 36:4 46:19	
	welcomed 159:6		wisely 275:8	
	welcoming 134:8		withdrawing 117:16 119:6	
			withdrew 125:3 126:5,15 192:16	

work 15:5 17:16 19:11 25:10 27:19 35:16 40:3,16 42:19 43:8 46:2 47:2 54:9,19 64:18 84:14,25 89:18 94:16 96:1,19, 25 103:23 104:4 106:7,8 113:14 119:15 129:6 141:24 143:3,7 147:18,19 149:5 150:19,22 151:20 158:13 159:24 167:10, 12 172:10 180:12 186:24 188:10 189:25 199:15 204:24 205:14 207:20 215:17,20 216:22 217:25 218:23 229:20 236:2,6 238:25 239:1,2,3,4,25 240:21 244:3,4 274:14,18 280:3 282:13 290:10 296:24	219:3 227:1 works 35:14 44:24 85:13 89:8 290:16 world 28:3 46:8 51:5 70:19 88:2,3 173:24 204:19 207:14 208:2 231:7 246:6 251:10 293:12 worried 225:16 worry 59:10 225:19 241:5 worst 209:1 worth 48:22 133:16 141:9 worthy 90:9 Wow 171:1 wrap 131:25 Wrapping 185:19 wrinkle 142:14 write 17:21,24 18:3 29:17 47:13 68:1 130:21 203:4 256:15 260:21 writer 29:6 writes 29:6	writing 17:19 179:22,25 206:9 277:20 written 16:2 49:15 60:14 97:2 132:1 159:17 189:22 205:9 217:15 249:3,7 wrong 174:10 178:5 295:7 wrongful 70:10,22 wrote 151:12 249:10 <hr/> Y <hr/> y'all 7:8 25:6 119:5 139:1 211:20 298:12 y'all's 89:9 279:1 year 14:20 41:15,17, 18 46:9 49:24 50:12 70:1 82:15 95:16,18 98:16,25 106:21 107:2 112:13 114:4 117:2,3 129:9 148:14, 18,22 149:9,11 150:3 175:5,6 187:7,23 188:1 218:25 219:1,7 231:20 235:23 236:3 276:24 277:23 years	14:17 22:25 26:15 28:13 34:8,22 40:10 46:16 48:6 49:12 58:22 61:2,3 63:12,16 75:24 76:15,24 82:6,8,9 84:5,12 95:6,20 97:11 98:9,12,13 103:1,7,12,16 105:16,18,19 106:5 108:9,10 109:10,15 116:7,8 117:4,5, 12 123:24 125:7,9 127:14 131:8 133:5 139:16 156:15 157:11 160:1 170:12 171:11 173:6 179:4 184:25 185:1,5, 6,9 186:11,18 188:16 189:20 194:24 195:2,3, 7,9 197:8 198:8, 10,25 199:2 200:8,15 206:22 207:9,16 215:4 216:12,16 218:21,22 225:8 232:13 269:15 271:22 273:10 275:2,3 276:23 277:9 279:22 yesterday 6:25 7:3 11:22 30:6 175:20 225:2 yesterdays 134:19	York 76:10 114:3,13, 14,15 117:20 121:12,14 129:10 131:18, 20 185:7 young 24:9 25:8,16,18 138:9 younger 96:5 youngest 125:15 youth 215:24 <hr/> Z <hr/> zealous 83:25 zealously 159:17 zeitgeist 177:24
---	---	---	--	--