



JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE 2025

1. Judicial placement for which you are applying:
Court: Family Court Judge
Circuit or Position: Fourth Judicial Circuit
Seat: 3
2. Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge (to include municipal, magistrate, etc.)?
If so, state the position. If part-time, please indicate.
Yes. Municipal Judge for the City of Hartsville, part-time.

Personal

3. Name: Honorable Elizabeth Biggerstaff York

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

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Darlington

Business Address: 139 Cashua Street, Darlington, SC 29532

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): 843-968-0246
(cell): [Redacted]

- 4 Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1969
Place of Birth: Lancaster County, South Carolina

5. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes

6. SCDL# or SCHD#: [Redacted]
Voter Registration Number: [Redacted]

7. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.
No military service.

8. Family Status:

- (a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated. Divorced
- (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation.
- (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s).
- (d) If you have ever been divorced or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds.

Divorced on February 6, 2013, Darlington County, South Carolina Family Court; Ms. York was moving party; One year separation or more.

Two Children:

[Redacted]

Divorced on December 18, 1998, Chesterfield County, South Carolina Family Court; Ms. Harris was moving party; One year separation or more.
No children were born of this marriage.

(e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are NOT full-time students, also include the occupation and employer of each child.
[Redacted]

9. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.

- (a) University of South Carolina, 1987-1991, BA
- (b) University of South Carolina School of Law, 1991-1994, JD

10. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

- (a) Student Bar Association, 1991-1994
- (b) Class Delegate, 1991-1994
- (c) Facebook Chairman, 1993-1994
- (d) Law Follies Chairman, 1993-1994
- (e) SBA Service Award Winner, 1994

11. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

My last rating by Martindale-Hubbell was in 2025, BV, Distinguished; Very High Rating in Both Legal Ability and Ethical Standards, 4.4/5.0 peer review.

12. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.

- (a) Darlington County Bar, President from approximately 2019 through 2023
- (b) Florence County Bar
- (c) South Carolina Family Law American Inn of Court, Master Level, Attorney
- (d) The Pee Dee American Inn of Court, Master of the Bench, Membership Committee
- (e) South Carolina Summary Court Judges' Association

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

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

Facebook, [Redacted]
Instagram, [Redacted]
LinkedIn, [Redacted]
Snapchat, [Redacted]

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

I am minimally involved in social media and abide by the Judicial Canons in that use.

14. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group; and any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

- (a) Ron James Youth Tennis Program, President, Board of Directors, (USTA NJTL)
- (b) South Carolina Family Law American Inn of Court, Master Level, Attorney
- (c) The Pee Dee American Inn of Court, Master of the Bench, Membership Committee
- (d) South Carolina Summary Court Judges' Association
- (e) Darlington County Bar, President from approximately 2019 through 2023
- (f) Florence County Bar
- (g) Central United Methodist Church, Florence, South Carolina
 - Finance Committee Member
 - Education and Spiritual Growth Team Leader
 - Greeter, The Well
 - Endowment Fund Committee Member
- (h) United States Tennis Association
 - Former Team Captain, Pee Dee Region
- (i) Florence Tennis Association, Former Board Member
- (j) All Saints Episcopal Day School
 - Parent Guild
- (k) West Florence Athletic Booster Club

- (l) Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association, former Board Member
- (m) Darlington Country Club

15. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

Having been involved in Family Court as an attorney and as a litigant gives me a fair perspective into the difficulties and stress of Family Court.

16. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of 5 persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with original letters of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all 5 original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete. Please do not have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. You must return the 5 original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application.

- (a) Douglas Jennings, Jr., [Redacted]
- (b) Mark W. Buyck, III, [Redacted]
- (c) Kendall R. Burch, [Redacted]
- (d) Nicholas A. Lewis, [Redacted]
- (e) Frank C. Swaggard, [Redacted]

Experience

17. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
South Carolina, I took the exam one time in 1994.

18. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts.

- (a) From 1994 until 1995, I was a law clerk to the Honorable Don S. Rushing, a Circuit Court Judge. During six months of the year term, he was Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes (Criminal) for Charleston County, South Carolina
- (b) From 1995 until 1996, I was an Assistant Solicitor for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, prosecuting cases in the General Sessions Court of Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon and Marlboro counties.
- (c) From 1996-2004, I worked at the law firm of Jennings and Harris, located in Bennettsville, South Carolina. I began as an associate and became a partner after several years. The firm had a general trial practice. My personal practice included a focus on Family Court

matters, although I practiced in all trial courts. I assisted with supervising personnel and utilized the trust account.

- (d) From 1996 until 2019, I was a contract attorney for the South Carolina Department of Social Services, handling abuse and neglect cases for Chesterfield County.
- (e) From 1998 until 1999, I was an adjunct professor with Coker University, where I taught Business Law through their adult program.
- (f) In 2002, I became a certified mediator for the Family Court.
- (g) From 2004 until 2006, I worked at the Law Office of Nancy Bailey located in Florence, South Carolina. This practice focused almost exclusively on Family Court matters. Florence County was an initial mandatory mediation county and I conducted mediations, including pro bono mediations for the Family Court, during this time. I also continued to work as a contract attorney for the South Carolina Department of Social Services handling abuse and neglect cases for Chesterfield County. I assisted with supervising personnel and utilized the trust account.
- (h) From 2006 until 2016, I worked for the South Carolina Department of Social Services on a full-time basis, handling abuse and neglect cases. I was the managing attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit which consists of Darlington, Chesterfield, Dillon, and Marlboro counties.
- (i) In July of 2016, I opened the Law Office of Elizabeth B. York, LLC with a focus on Family Court matters and continue this practice at present. I had a statewide contract with the South Carolina Department of Social Services for abuse and neglect cases from July 2016 until July 2019. I supervise personnel and have access to all accounts of the Law Office of Elizabeth B. York, LLC.
- (j) In July of 2016, I was appointed as a Municipal Judge for the City of Hartsville, and I presently serve in that capacity on a part-time basis.
- (k) In July of 2019, I entered into a contract with the South Carolina Commission of Indigent Defense to handle defense of abuse and neglect cases in Florence and Dillon counties.

Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 19–25. If you are a full-time judge seeking a judgeship different than your current position, Questions 19-25 should be answered based on your experience prior to serving on the bench.

19. Please answer the following:

- (a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court judge. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Family Court judge within the past five years.

My professional experience has included a focus in the Family Court since 1996, and I have experience in each of the above-mentioned areas of law. I represented the South Carolina Department of Social Services in abuse and neglect cases from 1996 until 2019. From 1996 until 2006, I had a contract with the South Carolina

Department of Social Services to handle abuse and neglect cases in Chesterfield with assistance in other counties. In 2006, I became a full-time attorney for the South Carolina Department of Social Services as a managing attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit and continued in that position until July of 2016. In July of 2016, I began a statewide contract for the South Carolina Department of Social Services, often traveling to handle complex matters on their behalf. I continued with this contract until July of 2019. In July of 2019, I signed a contract with the South Carolina Office Commission of Indigent Defense to defend abuse and neglect cases in Florence and Dillon counties and this contract continues at this time. Abuse and neglect cases often overlap with matters with the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and adoption and custody issues.

In 2016, I again entered into private practice and continue to handle all types of Family Court matters in each of these categories.

At a minimum, I have appeared in the Family Court once per week in the past five years.

- (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, and whether you represent plaintiffs, defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Circuit Court judge within the past five years. N/A
- (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity or a Circuit Court judge within the past five years. N/A
- (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law or Circuit Court within the past five years. N/A

20. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

- (a) federal: 0%
- (b) state: 100%

21. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

(a) civil: 0%
(b) criminal: 0%
(c) domestic: 95%
(d) other: 5%

22. During the past five years:

(a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 95%

(b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? N/A

(c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? For the purposes of this question, resolved includes settlement, plea, judge's order during a motion hearing, etc. In my opinion, approximately 85% of Family Court cases settle prior to completion of any trial and this would be consistent with my practice.

(d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements? N/A

(e) Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, second chair, or co-counsel? I serve as sole counsel in over 95% of my cases.

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

23. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in trial court, appellate court, or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

(a) SCDSS v. J.E., Case Number 96-DR-13-778

This was an abuse and neglect case in which the defendant was a foster mother who severely beat a foster child in her care, killing the child. The defendant mother had other foster children and an adopted child in her care. The deceased child was one of ten siblings in foster care. I not only handled the Family Court abuse and neglect side of the case for SCDSS, I also actively participated in the criminal trial of Ms. E. (97-GS-13-77, 98-GS-13-10) for the State and a civil trial against SCDSS and a school principal (97-CP-13-146, 98-CP-13-03). This case occurred as the child abuse code was changing nationwide. It involved the new code as well as the issues of severe abuse, mandatory reporting of abuse and neglect, child fatality protocol, and foster care licensing.

(b) SCDSS, In the Interests of J.C., Case Number 09-DR-13-378

This case involved severe abuse and neglect of three siblings. I represented SCDSS. This abuse included locking the children out of the family home during the day in severe heat. One sibling was placed into a dark storage building for days with no electricity or water and forced to wear a shock collar. A sibling of this child was asked to shock the other child and to empty the bucket that the child used as a restroom. All siblings had to empty the bucket that the children used as a restroom while working in the yard. The case involved media attention, a corollary criminal case, and it required expediting the case to assist these children. Personally, I will never forget preparing these children for trial. The perpetrators no longer have parental rights to the children. Two of the siblings were adopted. The sibling who was

asked to perform the shocking of the other siblings was opposed to adoption and requested to remain in a placement in an area where he had been placed initially.

(c) Richard S. Bird, Plaintiff, vs. Rebecca Moningka Bird, Defendant, vs. Richard S. Bird, Sr. and Martha Bird, Third-Party Defendants. Case Number 19-DR-21-0959.

This case was pled for divorce, custody, equitable distribution, alimony, and attorney's fees and costs. I was appointed by the Court to serve as the guardian ad litem for the two minor children of the parties. With regards to the custody issues, this case involved international kidnapping, parental alienation, and a recent diagnosis of chronic illness of one of the children. Numerous experts were involved in this matter. As guardian ad litem for the minor children, I had to file several Motions regarding their best interests. Several petitions for contempt were also filed and heard. This matter reached a final resolution on the children's issues with an Order filed June 16, 2021.

(d) Pamela A. Holmes vs. Terry L. Holmes, 2020-DR-21-0026

I represented the Plaintiff in this highly contested action which was pled for divorce, equitable distribution, alimony, and attorney's fees and costs and filed on January 8, 2020. The parties were married for thirty-eight years. They have three children, two are emancipated and one is deceased. Defendant was represented by two different attorneys during litigation, but ultimately represented himself. This matter was given complex designation on August 30, 2022. Plaintiff alleged improper disposal of marital assets including several car dealerships and the use of overseas bank accounts. Plaintiff utilized a forensic accountant which was essential to the disposition of the case. The matter was tried for 5 days. It was a lesson in the use of an expert, dealing with a pro se party, and working with an emotional client. Plaintiff was granted her divorce, alimony, an equitable distribution of marital assets, and her fees and costs by the Family Court.

(e) SCDSS v S.H.S. D.P., Case Number 2024-DR-21-0421

This case was brought by SCDSS with allegations of physical neglect as to both parents. I was appointed by the Court on May 8, 2024 to represent the defendant mother. The defendant mother suffers from severe anxiety and had difficulty with the removal of her child to foster care and also with communication with SCDSS. Through treatment services and communication with the Department and my client, we able to complete a successful return home of the child to the mother at the hearing on the merits of the matter.

24. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

(a) SCDSS, Respondent, v. F.V., J.V., and T.D., of whom F.V. and J.V. are Appellants, In the Interest of three minors, Case Number 2011-UP-47

This appeal from the Family Court of Darlington County involved Appellants F.V. and J.V.'s challenging the Court's finding of abuse and/or neglect, the Treatment Plan ordered, and the placement of their name onto the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect. The Court of Appeals upheld the findings of abuse and/or neglect, found the issue presented on the Treatment Plan was moot, and reversed placement of the names of F.V. and J.V. onto the Central Registry of Abuse and Neglect.

(b) SCDSS, Respondent, v. G.M.P., A.K.A. Z.P, M.P., and John Doe, In the Interests of a minor children under the eighteen years, Case Number 2012-UP-470

M.P. appealed the termination of his parental rights. The Court of Appeals

reviewed his case pursuant to Ex Parte Cauthen, 291 S.C. 465, 354 S.E. 3d 381 (1987), and upheld the termination of his parental rights.

(c) SCDSS, Respondent, v. Z.P., M.P., of whom E.P. is the Appellant, In the Interests of one minor child under the age of eighteen, Case Number 2010-UP-240

Z. P. appealed the Family Court's Order from the Permanency Planning hearing alleging that the evidence did not support the finding that reunification was no longer a viable plan for the child contending that the child's guardian ad litem did not perform her duties as mandated. The Court of Appeals upheld the decision of the Family Court.

(d) SCDSS, Respondent, vs. S.G., L.G., G.B., and John Doe, of whom S.G. is the Appellant, Case Number 2009-UP-164

S.G. appealed the termination of his parental rights. The Court of Appeals reviewed this case pursuant to Ex Parte Cauthen, 291 S.C. 465, 354 S.E.2d 381 (1987), and upheld the termination of his parental rights.

(e) SCDSS v. T.I., M.R., D.O., and B.M., Case Number 2021-000653

T.I. appealed the decision of the Family Court to grant permanent custody of her children to their father. This appeal was filed pursuant to Ex Parte Cauthen, 291 S.C. 465, 354 S.E. 3d 381 (1987). The Court of Appeals upheld the decision of the Family Court in an unpublished opinion filed December 16, 2021.

25. List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

I have not personally handled any criminal appeals.

26. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.

I was appointed as a Municipal Judge for the City of Hartsville on July 1, 2016, and I presently serve in that capacity on a part-time basis. The Municipal Court has jurisdiction over criminal offenses and city ordinances where the punishment does not exceed thirty days.

27. If the answer to question 26 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also, list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.

The cases over which I preside in the Municipal Court do not involve or require written orders.

28. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.

South Carolina, 1994

US District for the District of South Carolina, 1998

29. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.

- (a) I created a PowerPoint and lectured for the South Carolina Bar video CLE “Yikes, I’ve Gotten a DSS Appointment.”
- (b) I have served on panel discussions for DSS in-house CLE programs.
- (c) I created a PowerPoint and have given presentations to law enforcement on Title 63 of the South Carolina Code.
- (d) I created a PowerPoint and have given presentations to new DSS caseworkers on Title 63 of the South Carolina Code.
- (e) Adjunct Professor, Business Law, Coker University

30. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years. Please see the attached continuing legal education reports.

31. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
No published books or articles.

32. Please furnish, as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary author and include a description of the other authors and their contributions. The writing samples are for the Commission’s use only and will not be published. (If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable.)

- (a) South Carolina Court of Appeals, Final Brief with redactions, 2011
- (b) Family Court of South Carolina, Fourth Judicial Circuit, filed February 27, 2025

33. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? If so, give details, including dates.
I have never held public office other than my appointment as a Municipal Judge.

Personal Conduct

34. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any of the following: federal law or regulation; state law or regulation; county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance; or any other law, including another country’s law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

[All answers have been received and considered by the Commission, and as noted above, any expunged matters are redacted from the record.]

35. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.

No

36. Have you ever been sued by a client? Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.

Bahaadur "Aali Abdulahad v. SCDSS and Elizabeth Harris, Case Number 03-CP-13-137

A defendant in an abuse and neglect case sued me personally after a child who received iron burns to his face was removed from his custody. His case against me was dismissed by the Court quickly on February 11, 2004.

Elizabeth York v. Experian Information Solutions, Inc., Case Number 4:22-cv-00591-JD

I filed a lawsuit against Experian Information Solutions, Inc. as they erroneously merged my credit information with someone else with a similar name and Social Security Number to my detriment. Attorney Penny Hays Cauley represented me in that action. I learned of the error when I applied for pre-approval for a mortgage. The case was settled by a Settlement Agreement signed on September 9, 2022 and a Confidentiality Order filed in the United States District Court, District of South Carolina, Florence Division, on June 3, 2022.

37. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy.

I have had malpractice coverage since July 11, 2016. I have not been covered by a tail policy. My policy is for \$1,000,000.00 each claim and \$1,000,000.00 aggregate. My deductible is \$5,000.00 for each claim.

38. Have you ever, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been cautioned, sanctioned, or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct with or with a finding of misconduct? Has any jurisdiction found that you committed any misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition. Include any and all confidential and public sanctions, disciplines, letters of caution, or findings of misconduct of any kind. Private or confidential dispositions will be redacted.

[Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]

39. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details.

No

Financial

40. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes the below in detail. Note that a net worth statement form is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.

- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
- (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

Please see the attached financial statement.

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

41. (a) Have you filed state and federal income tax returns for the last 5 years? If no, please provide details.

Yes

(b) Have you or any business with which you are associated been delinquent in any local, state, or federal taxes? If yes, please provide details.

No

(c) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? If yes, please provide details.

No

42. Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? If so, please provide details.

No

43. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, please provide details, along with proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults.

No

Conflict of Interest

44. For sitting or former judges, list all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.

I have been in private practice in the Law Office of Elizabeth B. York, LLC which focuses on family law while serving as a part-time Municipal Judge since 2016. In July of 2016, I began

a statewide contract to handle abuse and neglect cases for the South Carolina Department of Social Services, often traveling to handle complex matters on their behalf. I continued with this contract until July of 2019. In July of 2019, I signed a contract with South Carolina Commission of Indigent Defense to defend abuse and neglect cases in Florence and Dillon counties and this contract continues at this time.

45. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.

Yes.

Unsuccessful candidacy for Family County, At-Large Seat 8, in 2016

I was found qualified, but was not one of the three candidates who was nominated.

Unsuccessful candidacy for Family Court, Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Seat 2, in 2017

I was found qualified, and one of the three candidates nominated.

Unsuccessful candidacy for Family Court, Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Seat 3, in 2021

I was found qualified, and one of the two candidates nominated.

46. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.

No

47. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.

No

48. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a “lobbyist,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a “lobbyist’s principal,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.

No

49. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal involved.

No

50. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?

No expenditures have been made by me or on my behalf.

51. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past 4 years. If you participate in any employer-mandated contributions to a PAC or any other political entity, please describe and note your personal involvement in contributions. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening.

None by me. I am not aware of any contribution by any immediate family member.

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

No

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

I have no financial arrangements or business relationships that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest for the position I am seeking.

54. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property: None

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

List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. None

Identify as applicable the:

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

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement. N/A

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

None

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

As a sitting Municipal Judge, my Raymond James statement is attached to the Confidential Financial Statement which is part of my response to number 40 of this Personal Data Questionnaire.

57. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.
As a sitting Municipal Judge, my response is no.

58. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office?
As a sitting Municipal Judge, my response is no.

59. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened, or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? If so, give details.
No

60. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative.
No

61. Are you familiar with the 12 days' rule as provided by Section 2-19-25, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?
Yes

62. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.
No

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: _____

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2025.

(Notary Signature)

Shannon G. Terry
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: 10/01/2025