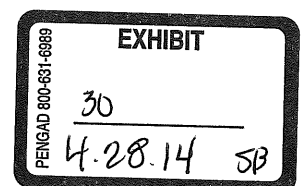


JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

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

1. NAME: Mr. William Gregory Seigler
BUSINESS ADDRESS: PO Box 1852
McCormick, SC 29835
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 864-852-9555
2. Date of Birth: 1974
Place of Birth: August, GA
3. Are you a citizen of SC? Yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years?
Yes
5. Family Status: Married on August 19, 2008 to Jennifer Denise Price. Divorced on July 14, 2006, Family Court-Eighth Judicial Circuit, William Gregory Seigler-moving party. One year continuous separation. Three children.
6. Have you served in the military?
No.
7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) The Citadel-Military College of SC, August 1992-May 1996, BS-Cum Laude;
 - (b) Mississippi College School of Law, August 1996-May 1997, (transferred to USC School of Law);
 - (c) USC School of Law, August 1997-May 1999-JD.
8. 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. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
SC - 2000
9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
 - (a) November Company Clerk, August 1993-December 1993;
 - (b) CADRE-1993, 4th Battalion Operations Clerk-January 1994-May 1994;
 - (c) November Company 1st Sergeant-August 1994-May 1995;
 - (d) CADRE-1994, NCO Instructor 1994;
 - (e) Numerous Intramural Sports;
 - (f) Inn of Court, Round Table.
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.

<u>Conference/CLE Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
(a) Annual Public Defender Conference	09/28/13;
(b) Annual Public Defender Conference	09/27/12;



- (c) Annual Public Defender Conference 09/26/11;
 - (d) Annual Public Defender Conference 09/27/10;
 - (e) Annual Public Defender Conference 09/28/09;
 - (f) Title I 01/01/09;
 - (g) Personal Injury Clients 01/28/09;
 - (h) Title Insurance I 02/25/09.
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?
No.
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
None.
13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
- (a) Admitted to practice before the State Courts of SC in 2000;
 - (b) Also admitted to practice before the Federal District Court in 2000.
14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
- (a) Law Offices of W. Greg Seigler, 2000-10, Solo Practitioner with a general practice that focused on Family Law, but included Criminal Law, Probate Law, Personal Injury, and Real Estate. During this time I was the attorney for the Town of Troy (Greenwood County), attorney for the Town of Plum Branch (McCormick County);
 - (b) Chief Municipal Judge for the town of Calhoun Falls (Abbeville County), 2005-07;
 - (c) Tri-County Public Defender (Edgefield, McCormick, Saluda Counties), 2007-10--designated as part time. I represent all defendants charged with crimes who are indigent in all three counties, in General Sessions Court, Family Court, and Magistrates/Municipal Court;
 - (d) Eleventh Circuit Public Defender's Office/Lexington County as Tri-County Public Defender, 2010-current, full time. I represent all defendants charged with crimes who are indigent in all three counties, in General Sessions Court, Family Court, and Magistrates/Municipal Court.

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 has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court Judge.

I have represented domestic clients in every area of family law. While in private practice I handled hundreds of divorces with little or no assets with grounds of divorce being one year continuous separation, to long term marriages destroyed by adultery, substance abuse, or physical cruelty with assets valued in the millions. I have handled divorces, child custody cases, and other cases all pro bono for clients that were in abusive relationships or

for whatever reason simply could not afford to pay me. I have also handled high profile divorces and custody cases where I earned a significant fee. I have many child custody cases, some of which were settled during the divorce proceedings, some that involved grandparent's rights, stepparent's rights, and some that stemmed from an action being filed due to a significant change in circumstances with the change ranging from income to residency issues, relocation issues, remarriage, exposing the children to an immoral environment, etc. I have been involved in many adoption cases, both as counsel for the adoptive parents, guardian ad litem of for the child, and even as counsel for the biological parent contesting the adoption. For many years I was attorney for the SC Guardian ad Litem Program. In that capacity I was involved in almost every abuse and neglect case in McCormick County. Prior to taking that position I was appointed to represent many clients who were defendants involved in abuse and neglect cases with the Department of Social Services (DSS) where DSS was pursuing the termination of parental rights, emergency protective custody, parenting plans, or child support. I have been involved in abuse and neglect cases, which ended in a wonderful manner with a child being adopted by a wonderful family, and I have been involved in cases that ended in tragedy. In private practice I was hired on a few cases that involved juveniles who were charged with crime or were otherwise delinquent, but it was not until I was appointed Tri-County Public Defender until I really became involved with juveniles. Since that time I have handled 99% of all juvenile cases in McCormick, Saluda, and Edgefield Counties. I represent about 200 children per year who are charged with crimes ranging from shoplifting to murder. It is very rewarding when you fell like you were able to help a juvenile who is heading down the wrong path, but that is not always the case. So gain, with all humility, I have handled about every type of family court case imaginable.

15. What is your rating, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, etc.?

Not rated.

16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years?

- (a) federal: none;
 (b) state: almost every day between Family Court, General Sessions Court, and Magistrates Court.

17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years?

- (a) civil: 5%;
 (b) criminal: 40%;
 (c) domestic: 50%;
 (d) other: 5%.

18. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?

- (a) jury: 30%;
 (b) non-jury: 70%.

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?

Sole counsel.

19. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
- (a) George and Connie Gable vs. David Kay-I represented the Gables, who are lifelong McCormick County residents, in a child custody case as grandparents of an eight year old boy whose mother had just died of brain cancer. The mother of course being their daughter. The biological father, Mr. Kay, had seen the child only a few times during the child's life. Upon the mother's death, Mr. Kay attempted to remove the child from the grandparent's home. I filed for an emergency hearing on behalf of the Gables and they were able to gain custody of the child. They still have custody today some 6 years later. Based on the law at that time it was a significant achievement.
 - (b) Carl Thomas Wall vs. Jamie Wall-I represented Mr. Wall in a divorce action that involved on minor child, two stepchildren, and many assets. The couple was married for thirty plus years. Mr. Wall sought a divorce based on the grounds of habitual drunkenness. Mr. Wall was able to prove at trial that the wife had been abusing drugs and alcohol for many years, and that she had ultimately vacated the marital home leaving him with nothing but the biological child. My client was a lifelong friend of my father. I was able to secure a favorable result for him and his child. That was significant to me because I helped Mr. Wall, but also because I spent hundreds of hours on the case with being paid one penny. That is often the case in a small rural county in SC.
 - (c) State vs Stephen Louis Barnes-Mr. Barnes was in Edgefield County Detention Center awaiting trial for murder where the state was seeking the death penalty. While in jail he was charged with throwing bodily fluids on a jail employee. I was appointed to represent him on that charge which he was ultimately convicted of after about 8 hours of jury deliberation. Prior to finding him guilty the jury declared on two occasions that they were unable to reach a verdict. I demanded the judge declare a mistrial but he refused and sent the jury to deliberate for a third time. I immediately filed a notice of intent to appeal the conviction. While the appeal was pending Mr. Barnes was tried and convicted of murder and received the death penalty. During the penalty phase the state used the conviction of throwing bodily fluids as part of the evidence that he needed to be put to death. Last year the conviction of throwing bodily fluids was overturned, and soon thereafter the murder conviction was as well. Mr. Barnes was granted a new trial on both charges.
 - (d) State vs. John Doe-this pending case involves a male juvenile who was charged with murder last year after he allegedly stabbed his father to death soon after being returned to his parent's home after being in DSS custody for some time because of abuse and neglect. I had him evaluated by the Department of Mental Health which found him competent to stand trial. I totally disagreed with the finding and I have had an order signed by the family court to have him evaluated by a private physician. I am limited at this time to discuss the case, but even at this stage it has been a very significant case to me.
 - (e) Estate of James Strom-James was my friend and a lifelong resident of McCormick County . He was a successful family man with a very bright future, a beautiful wife, and two teenage children. They were all 4 killed in a plane crash in

Greenwood County. The plane was being operated by James when it went down. Investigations revealed that the crash was caused by pilot error. I represented the estates; it was tragic.

20. 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. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter).
21. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.
22. Have you ever held judicial office?

I was Chief Municipal Court Judge for the Town of Calhoun Falls, 2005-07, appointed by the Mayor and Town Council. I presided over traffic court, signed warrants, and presided over pleas and trials for minor criminal offenses within the magistrate's jurisdiction. I had no civil jurisdiction as municipal judge.

23. If the answer to question 22 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.

I never issued any type of opinion or order except for sentencing.

24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office?

Tri-County Public Defender described above.

25. 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.

Law Offices of W. Greg Seigler 2005-07.

26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?

I ran as a judicial candidate for Family Court At Large Seat Number 2. Five people filed for the seat. I was screened out in the top three. After which one candidate withdrew which only left me and Tony Miller Jones as the final candidates for the seat. I withdrew a few days prior to a vote which took place in January, 2013.

27. 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?

I began working in my early teens. I worked at McCormick Building and Farm Supply loading seed, concrete, building supplies, etc. I worked at Gurley's Supermarket while in high school. While in college during the summers I worked as a lifeguard at Baker Creek State Park, the Town of Ware Shoals, and Savannah Lakes Village. I also taught swimming lessons for underprivileged kids at John de la Howe School. I also worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Strom Thurmond Dam. Also, during law school I worked of The Garrett Law firm in Greenwood, and O. Lee Sturkey, Attorney at Law, in McCormick. All of the above mentioned employment was prior to being admitted to the bar.

28. 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.

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

30. 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.

None.

31. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law?

No.

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

No.

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

No.

34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law.

In 2011, I was sued by Stephen Louis Barnes, and in mate on SC's death row. I was appointed to represent him for a crime that went to trial. He sued me claiming that I did not provide him with all the states discovery. The case was removed to federal court and ultimately dismissed with prejudice. I was a plaintiff in a suit in 2004. I was not a Defendant or Respondent, but I reveal this to the commission out of caution. I filed suit against Bill Boyd Realty, Textron Financial, et al. And sought relief in the form of a declaratory judgment in regards to the validity of an opinion issued by my law firm for a subsidiary of Textron. The opinion basically stated that the subsidiary was duly organized and in good standing , certain loan documents were legal and binding, and it was in compliance with local, state and federal laws. The case was removed to federal court and settled with no judgements filed against any party.

36. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect?

No.

37. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance?

I am an employee of the Eleventh Circuit Public Defender's Office/Lexington County and am covered under their malpractice coverage. I purchased a tail policy when I closed my firm in 2010. It was a simply policy to cover any claims filed within one year of the cancellation of my professional liability insurance.

38. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.?

No.

39. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)?

No.

40. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal?

No.

41. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that “[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated.” Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions.
- None.
42. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that “[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign.” Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions.
- None.
43. 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.
- None.
44. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship.
- None.
45. 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? 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?
- No.
46. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?
- No.
47. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.
- No.
48. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate?
- No.
49. 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) SC Bar, past family and criminal law division;
 - (b) McCormick County Bar President, 2003-present;
 - (c) SC Trial Lawyers Association;
 - (d) SC Summary Court Judges Association.
50. 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,

any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

- (a) The Citadel Alumni Association;
- (b) Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of SC, Worshipful Master-Mine Lodge 117, 2005;
- (c) Shriner-Jamil Temple, Red Fez Shrine Club;
- (d) NRA Life Member;
- (e) National Wild Turkey Federation member;
- (f) SC Wildlife Endowment;
- (g) McCormick Rotary Club past member;
- (h) Bethany Baptist Church member.

51. 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.

As a child I was fortunate to have been reared in an environment that instilled moral values and demanded discipline. I applied that type of raising to each and every life goal and objective. At The Citadel the values and discipline that I learned as an adolescent were fine tuned. I have applied the lessons and values learned to my everyday life as well as my law practice. I feel that my experience in every aspect of family law provides me with the tools and knowledge necessary to be a family court judge. I also feel that as a husband and a father of three sons coupled with my legal experience, I have the skills to deal with the unique area of domestic law. I also believe that I possess the appropriate perspective and temperament for the position. If given the opportunity I will serve the citizens of this great state with honor and integrity.

52. Reference:

- (a) Solicitor Donald V. Myers
205 E. Main St.
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 606-2770
- (b) Solicitor David Stumbo
PO Box 516
Greenwood, SC 29648
(803) 422-2781
- (c) Rep. Paul Agnew, ret.
PO Box 98
Abbeville, SC 29620
(864) 378-0798
- (d) Honorable C. David Sawyer, Jr., ret.,
110 S. Main St.
Saluda, SC 29138
(864) 445-4544

(e) Laurie Solesby
BB&T Bank
200 E. Augusta St.
McCormick, SC 29835
(864) 852-2531

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

Signature: William Gregory Seigler
Date: February 12, 2014