

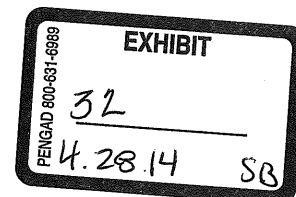
**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

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

1. NAME: Ms. Rebecca Brown West
BUSINESS ADDRESS: PO Box 2485
Lexington, SC 29071
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 803-957-0889
2. Date of Birth: 1975
Place of Birth: Biloxi, Mississippi
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: Divorced on September 2, 2011; Moving party-Rebecca West; One year continuous separation; Two 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) Lander University, 1993-97, BS;
 - (b) University of Mississippi School of Law, 1997-99, JD (2000);
 - (c) USC School of Law, 1999-2000
Visiting Student (degree granted from University of Mississippi).
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
I have not taken a bar exam in another state.
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) Lander Ambassadors	approximately 1995-96;
(b) Editor, Review (Lander Univ. literary magazine)	approximately 1995-97;
(c) Lander EXPO Orientation leader	approximately 1996, 97;
(d) Lander Scholar honors program	approximately 1993-95;
(e) Phi Delta Phi (Univ. of Miss. Law School Service Organization)	1998.
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) Family Court Bench/Bar	12/06/13;
(b) Family Law Intensive (Twists and Turns of Child Custody in the Modern Age	10/23/13;



- (c) 2013 Hot Tips From the Coolest Family Law Practitioners 09/27/13;
- (d) American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers:
The Family Law Symposium 04/19/13;
- (e) Family Court Bench/Bar 12/07/12;
- (f) How to Understand & Analyze Financial Statements For Lawyers 11/02/12;
- (g) 2012 Hot Tips From the Coolest Family Law Practitioners 09/28/12;
- (h) Legal Ethics & Practice Program Trust Account School 02/15/12;
- (i) Family Law Intensive Dollars & Sense in Family Court: Agreements,
Experts & Getting the Information You Need 10/06/11;
- (j) 2011 Hot Tips From the Coolest Family Law Practitioners 09/16/11;
- (k) Family Court Bench/Bar 12/03/10;
- (l) 2010 Hot Tips from the Coolest Family Law Practitioners 10/01/10;
- (m) Family Court Bench/Bar 12/04/09;
- (n) Family Court Bench/Bar Family Law Practitioners
- (o) 2008 Hot Tips from the Coolest 12/05/08.

11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?

- (a) Family Law Essentials: Organizing and Presenting Your Case
Scheduled for 03/21/14, SC Bar CLE
Authored materials and will present materials;
- (b) Attorney's Guide to Child Custody Evaluations
06/28/13, NBI CLE
Authored materials and presented;
- (c) Advanced Family Law: Special Issues in Military Divorce
02/02/12, NBI CLE
Authored materials and presented;
- (d) Hot Tips for the Coolest Domestic Law Practitioners:
09/16/11, Topic: Grandparent Visitation, SC Bar CLE, Authored materials and
presented;
- (e) Divorce Litigation: From Start to Finish; Enforcement and Post-Trial
08/12/11, NBI CLE, Presented;
- (f) Law School for Non-Lawyers--Family Law
04/2011, SC Bar Sponsored Public Program, Presented;
- (g) Non-parent Rights to Children
03/2011. SC Bar CLE—Distance Learning, Authored materials and presented;
- (h) Advanced Family Law
02/2010, NBI CLE, Presented;
- (i) "What is your Expert Giving You?" Deposing Psychiatric and
Psychological Professionals; Children's Issues in Family Court
03/2007, SC Bar CLE
Authored materials and presented;
- (j) An Optimal View of 2005
12/2005, Co-moderator.

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) State of SC on November 13, 2000;
 - (b) United States District Court, District of SC on January 18, 2001.
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) Oswald Law Firm, LLC , West Columbia, SC, November 2000-May 2004
I worked as a law clerk for this general practice firm during my final year of law school and joined the firm after graduation. I represented clients in personal injury actions, workers' compensation claims, family court actions, probate and federal bankruptcy court. I was sole trial counsel in many cases in the court of common pleas, magistrate's court and family court. I also regularly represented claimants before the SC Workers' Compensation Commission.
 - (b) Masella Law Firm, P.A., Columbia, SC, June 2004-June 2009
I was initially hired as an associate and later became a partner in the firm. Upon joining the firm, I immediately focused my practice on family law and transitioned completely away from my common pleas and bankruptcy practice. I ended my association with the firm upon receiving an offer to practice family law in Lexington, SC.
 - (c) Law Office of Richard Breibart, LLC, Lexington, SC, July 1, 2009-May 31, 2012
I practiced solely in the family court during my time with the firm. I served as the family law group supervising attorney and was an employee of the firm. I supervised as many as three family law attorneys and three staff members. I resigned my position upon learning of Mr. Breibart's criminal activities. The firm dissolved upon Mr. Breibart's suspension from the practice on June 1, 2012.
 - (d) Rebecca West, Attorney at Law, P.A., Lexington, SC
Formed May 31, 2012; Dissolved April 5, 2013
I formed this entity immediately upon resigning from my former firm. I practiced for approximately one week under this firm name until becoming partners with Jonathan Harling and forming my current firm, Harling & West, LLC.
 - (e) Harling & West, LLC, Lexington, SC, June 7, 2012-present
I continue to practice solely in the family court. I began developing a family law mediation practice and I currently mediate several times each month in addition to maintaining a full trial practice. Allison B. Bullard is of counsel with my firm and she practices solely in the family court and has a practice that focuses on adoption. My partner is Jonathan Harling.

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 practiced solely in the family court for ten years and I have been a certified family court mediator for eight years.

I have represented clients in divorce actions that involve fault based grounds and no fault grounds. Divorce and/or separate maintenance are typically alleged in cases I handle. I have proven and defended allegations of adultery, habitual drunkenness and physical cruelty.

The majority of cases I handle involve equitable division. I have litigated cases that involve marital estates with a wide range of size and complexity. Most of my clients have average to high average net worth, but I have also represented clients who have negative net worth or are simultaneously seeking bankruptcy protection. I have extensive experience with division and valuation of military retirement, pensions, investment accounts, real estate and businesses. I have worked with certified public accountants, certified valuation analysts and appraisers as experts and consultants in divorce matters.

I have represented fathers, mothers, grandparents and non-relatives in contested custody and visitation matters. My cases regularly involve a Guardian ad Litem and many cases involve counselors and psychological experts. I have represented clients in initial custody determinations and custody/visitation modification actions. One of the most significant cases I litigated in my career involved an unwed mother's successful attempt to relocate with her child out of state.

Because of my experience in representing military service members, I developed a mastery of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Enforcement Act and the enforcement and modification of out of state custody and support orders. I have successfully registered, enforced and modified orders from other states. I have served as SC counsel in cases where an out of state resident sought dismissal of a custody action brought in our state.

My experience in abuse and neglect cases includes representation of clients from the earliest stages of the department's investigation through merits hearings on the finding of abuse or neglect to permanency planning hearings and judicial review. I have intervened in Department cases on behalf of parents and non-parents, negotiated treatment plans on behalf of clients and helped clients navigate the social services system during an open case. I have occasionally represented clients before the foster care review board. Courts have appointed me as a Guardian ad Litem in abuse and neglect matters and I have conducted investigations and reported my findings to the court.

I have been involved in several termination of parental rights matters, both in private actions and in the context of a Department of Social Services abuse and neglect case. I have served as co-counsel in adoption cases. I have not represented juvenile defendants in family court, though I have observed juvenile court proceedings.

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.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

I have not been rated.

16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years?
- | | | |
|-----|----------|-------|
| (a) | federal: | 0%; |
| (b) | state: | 100%. |

17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years?
- (a) civil: 0%;
 - (b) criminal: 0%;
 - (c) domestic: 100%;
 - (d) other: 0%.

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: 0%;
- (b) non-jury: 100%.

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) McComb v. Conard

394 S.C.416, 715 S.E.2d 662 (S.C.App. 2011)

The successful trial of this case was the most significant accomplishment of my legal career. I was sole trial counsel for an un-wed mother who sought to relocate to Florida with her child over the father's objection. Both parents were college students when they had their daughter. They chose not to marry, but shared in the child's upbringing. Father eventually moved near Charlotte for work, but maintained a home in Columbia. Neither party filed for custody until Mother indicated that she wanted to move to Florida upon graduation. Mother prevailed at trial and was permitted to relocate to Florida with the child. The court of appeals upheld the trial court's award of joint custody and permission for the mother to relocate with the child. This was one of the first cases where the appellate court applied the Latimer relocation factors to an initial custody determination. The father benefitted from a trust valued in excess of \$1,000,000.00. This case was significant for me for several reasons. The parties had a substantial income disparity and we were forced to build our case with modest resources. This case involved a psychological expert, extensive discovery, an experienced opposing attorney and a multi-day trial.

- (b) Sanderson v. Sanderson

391 S.C. 249, 705 S.E.2d 65 (S.C.App. 2010)

I was appellate counsel for Mr. Sanderson. I was not involved in the trial of the underlying case. Mr. Sanderson lost his job due to a force reduction during divorce litigation. The trial court imputed a substantial income to him and set alimony and child support based on the imputed wage. I successfully challenged the amount of the imputed wage. The court of appeals reversed and remanded the case to the trial court. I continued my representation in the case on remand and was successful in reducing the imputed annual wage from \$64,000.00 to \$15,072.00. I did not have the advantage of having tried the divorce case and several issues had not been preserved for appeal by trial counsel. This case was significant because, despite the significant limitations of the record, I was able to

obtain substantial financial relief for my client.

(c) Mrs. W v. Mr. W

In 2011, I was retained by a wife who suspected that her husband was committing adultery. Husband operated a successful government contract procurement business and the couple had a net worth of more than \$7,000,000.00. I was able to prove adultery after a lengthy out-of-state investigation. Late in the litigation, husband challenged the tax treatment of the support payments he was making to wife and I successfully defended the motion which confirmed that the payments were non-taxable to my client. I employed a certified public accountant and certified valuation analyst to value husband's business and analyze wife's need for alimony. A consulting CPA attended mediation to assist me in analyzing the tax consequences of property division scenarios and support arrangements. This case was significant because of the size of the marital estate, the tax issues and the business valuation. In addition to the property division, I negotiated an alimony award of \$8,500.00 per month for my client and full reimbursement of her attorney fees and costs.

(d) Mrs T. v. Mr. T

This was a highly contested divorce, custody and alimony case that involved allegations of psychological abuse and the threat of sexual abuse of a young child. The parents were highly educated professionals that had been involved in a long-term relationship prior to marriage. Mother accused father of possessing child pornography and of taking inappropriate photographs of their young daughter. She also alleged that his professional writings were evidence of deviant sexual behavior. Prior to my taking over the father's representation from a colleague, father's computer had been seized by court order. Soon after I got involved in the case, father was required to submit to an extensive psycho-sexual assessment. His computer was analyzed by a computer forensics expert and the parties and the child underwent psychological evaluations. Father's contact with the child was initially suspended. When this restriction was lifted, his contact was supervised for an extensive period of time and he was not permitted to have overnight visitation until after the case concluded. The Guardian ad Litem was heavily involved in the case and both parties conducted extensive discovery. After two days in mediation, father was named a joint custodial parent and the restrictions on his contact were lifted. This case was significant because mother sought to sever all of father's ties to his child through numerous serious and false allegations. My client and I persevered and were able to neutralize all of mother's allegations and succeed in Father's attempts to be an involved parent.

(e) Mr. M v. Mrs. M

I represented a husband in a divorce action. Husband worked and lived in Japan during my representation and he earned a substantial income. Wife was unemployed and lived in SC. They had no children together. Husband filed for separate maintenance and support. Within a week of filing, husband discovered that wife liquidated a certificate of deposit of \$33,594.00 and took more than \$14,000.00 from a line of credit in his name. I immediately obtained an ex parte order restraining the use of the money wife took. Wife withdrew all of the money in cash two days after receiving notice of the order. This case involved

issues of personal jurisdiction and whether wife had proper notice of the court's ex parte order. I successfully argued that the court had personal jurisdiction and that wife was in contempt for withdrawing the money. Later in the case wife was again held in contempt for her failure to deposit \$33,594.00 to her attorney's trust account and for her failure to pay attorney fees to me. The court issued a bench warrant for her arrest. My staff and I were able to ensure that the bench warrant was served on her despite the fact that she was actively evading service. Her arrest on this bench warrant created the leverage for us to settle the divorce action. My client was able to recover nearly all of the money wife took, he received the initial attorney fee award and wife agreed that she was barred from receiving alimony. This case was significant because of the many procedural challenges it posed and the fact that I had to prosecute multiple contempt actions without my client being present.

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.
- (a) McComb v. Conard, 394 S.C.416, 715 S.E.2d 662 (S.C.App. 2011);
 - (b) Sanderson v. Sanderson, 391 S.C. 249, 705 S.E.2d 65 (S.C.App. 2010);
 - (c) Brandenburg v. Pysher, 2012-UP-151, March 7, 2012;
 - (d) Walsh v. Walsh, 2007-UP-093, February 23, 2007;
 - (e) Doe v. Doe, 2006-UP-248, May 18, 2006.
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.
- None.
22. 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.
- No.
24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office?
- No.
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.
- Not applicable.
26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?
- No.
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?
- At various times from 1993 through 1997, I was employed as a student worker at the Lander University Office of Student Affairs, Department of Housing and the Fine Arts Department; a high school volleyball referee for the SC High School League and various private schools in Greenwood County; and a waitress at the Greenwood Country Club.
- From 1999-2000, I worked as the night manager at the Ronald McDonald House in Columbia, SC. From 1999-2000, I worked as a law clerk for Oswald & Associates, LLC, in West Columbia, SC.
28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?
- 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?

In approximately 1997, I was charged with unlawful use of the telephone in Greenwood County. I successfully completed pre-trial intervention and the charge was expunged.

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?

I have never been the subject of a tax lien or collection proceeding. I have never defaulted on a student loan and I have never filed for bankruptcy.

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?

Stella K. Black v. Harold Whitney Black, Whit-Ash Furnishings, Inc., Jim Edwards, Amanda Phillips, Rebecca West, The Masella Law Firm, Spector Soft Corporation.

2007 CP 40 2204

During ongoing family court litigation, Mrs. Black filed a civil action against her estranged husband, his business, his private investigator, his employees, me, my law firm and a computer software corporation. Mr. Black ultimately settled the action with Mrs. Black. None of the other defendants, including me, contributed to the settlement and Mr. Black never sought contribution from me or the other defendants.

Harriet A. Craig v. Law Office—Richard J. Breibart, LLC, Richard Breibart and Rebecca West

2012 CP 32 3679

Ms. Craig was a client of the Law Office of Richard Breibart. Ms. Craig was the victim of Mr. Breibart's scheme to defraud clients of money. On August 12, 2013, Richard Breibart plead guilty in federal court of mail fraud related to his theft of Ms. Craig's money. On March 5, 2014, the federal court imposed the maximum sentence of 63 months imprisonment and ordered him to pay \$2.4M in restitution. In this lawsuit, Ms. Craig alleges that I was negligent in my failure to discover the fraud. I am currently represented by The Hood Law Firm and I have denied the allegations.

William Britton West (Defendant/Petitioner) v. Rebecca Brown West (Plaintiff/Respondent)

Contempt action filed by my former husband on July 10, 2013, under case number 2011 DR 40 1969

My former husband filed a pro se contempt petition alleging various violations of the Marital Settlement Agreement related to his contact with our children. The matter was

set to be heard by Judge John Rucker in August 2013, but Judge Rucker recused himself. My former husband has not pursued the matter since the recusal, has not requested a hearing and the petition remains inactive. I am represented by an attorney and have strongly denied the allegations.

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? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy?

I am currently covered by malpractice insurance. My current firm has a lawyer's professional liability insurance policy with limits of \$1,000,000.00/\$1,000,000.00. The policy deductible is \$5,000.00. I have carried malpractice insurance continuously since I was licensed in 2000.

I am covered by an unlimited individual tail policy related to the Breibart firm policy.

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.?

I currently have a Facebook account and a law firm website, www.harlingandwest.com, for professional marketing. If I am elected, I would deactivate my Facebook account. If elected, my firm website would be removed and the hosting agreement would be terminated.

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.

No.

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.

No.

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.

- (a) Approximately \$82.00 for postage on February 3, 2014;
 - (b) Approximately \$12.00 for a nametag on February 18, 2014.
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?
- No.
47. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy?
- 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 Association, Member, Family Law Section (2000-present);
 - (b) American Bar Association, Member, Family Law Section (2009-12; 2013-present);
 - (c) Lexington County Bar Association, President (current); President-Elect (2013-14);
 - (d) SC Association for Justice, Member (2013-present);
 - (e) SC Women Lawyers Association, Member (2014-present);
 - (f) SC Bar Continuing Legal Education Committee, Member (2007-08);
 - (g) SC Supreme Court Mentoring Program, Mentor (2011, 2012);
 - (h) SC middle school and high school mock trial judge (2011).
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) SC ETV;
 - (b) Columbia Running Club;
 - (c) Midway Elementary School parent volunteer;
 - (d) Kittiwake Baptist Church KidMin volunteer.
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.

The sudden loss of my natural mother to injuries sustained in an automobile accident was an event that shaped my temperament and personality. When I was six years old, my father began raising my younger brother and me on his own. We were taught to be independent and to persevere. My father managed to provide us with stability despite the

devastation we experienced. When my father remarried, we formed a new family that proved to be as loving and stable as my first family. I have never considered my mother a “step” mother, but rather my “second” mother. She raised me as her own and modeled for me an exceptional work ethic. She taught me the art of how to have a successful professional career and simultaneously provide a nurturing home for my children.

Because of these experiences, I developed the desire to work hard and to be calm and resilient when faced with difficult circumstances. These personality traits have served me well in my professional practice and will undoubtedly be an asset to me if I am elected to serve in the judiciary.

52. References:

- (a) John O. McDougall, Esquire
P.O. Box 90860
Columbia, SC 29290
(803) 776-3130
- (b) John P. Freeman, Esquire
2329 Wilmot Ave.
Columbia, SC 29205
(803) 254-4667
- (c) Ashby Lawton Jones, Esquire
303 South Lake Dr.
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 359-1003
- (d) Douglas K. Kotti, Esquire
6326 St. Andrews Rd.
Columbia, SC 29212
(803) 772-0662
- (e) Kathy A. Bortz and Cristy A. Medlin
BB&T
309 Columbia Ave.
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 359-1645
- (f) Vincent Elia
Bank of America
215 West Main St.
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 996-8400

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

Signature: /s/ Rebecca West

Date: March 10, 2014

April 14, 2014

Jane O. Shuler, Chief Counsel
Judicial Merit Selection Commission
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Re: Family Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Seat 1
Addenda to Personal Data Questionnaire

Dear Ms. Shuler:

I am writing to make the following addenda to my Personal Data Questionnaire:

Question #30: The law firm business relationships I have had since I was admitted to practice which could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest are:

Oswald Law Firm, LLC

November 2000-May 2004

I was employed as an associate attorney with the firm. I was never a partner. The attorneys in the firm during my time there were: Billy R. Oswald, Gene Stockholm, Robin R. McLean and W. Wesley Johnson, Jr.

Masella Law Firm, P.A.

June 2004-June 2009

I was initially hired as an associate and later became a partner in the firm. The attorneys in the firm were Robert M.P. Masella and Reynolds Blankenship. I was partners with Robert M.P. Masella from approximately May 2008 until my departure from the firm.

Law Office of Richard Breibart, LLC

July 1, 2009-May 31, 2012

I was employed as an attorney with the firm. I was never a partner. The attorneys in the firm during my time there were: Richard J. Breibart, Nancy Todd Jordan, Alyssa H. Richardson, James B. O'Connor, Michael Turner, Bryn C. Sarvis (now Bryn Sarvis Rice), Maura Dawson (now Maura Dawson Baker), Derrick Mobley, Jesse Near, Reid Quattlebaum, Shannon A. Davis, Stephen "Chip" Burn, David Scott, Jonathan Harling and Allison Bullard.



Rebecca West, Attorney at Law, P.A.

Formed May 31, 2012; Dissolved April 5, 2013

I was the sole practitioner in this firm. I operated under this firm name for a very brief time until the formation of my current firm.

Harling & West, LLC

June 7, 2012-present

I am a one-half owner of this firm. I am partners with Jonathan Harling. Allison B. Bullard is *of counsel* with the firm and the firm currently pays her pursuant to an Of Counsel Agreement dated January 13, 2013.

I would analyze potential conflicts of interests Rule 501 Canon 3(E) and always be mindful of the requirement that I must disqualify myself from matters in which my impartiality might reasonably be questioned.

Question #34:

Rebecca West v. Todd Morehead, Columbia City Paper, LLC and Paul Blake
396 S.C.1, 720 S.E.2d 495 (S.C.App. 2011)

This matter was a defamation claim I made against a writer, newspaper and publisher for an article published in 2007. I was the Respondent on appeal. The newspaper published an article about a divorce case where I represented the husband and the wife claimed that I had a conflict of interest. The jury determined that the article defamed me and awarded me actual and punitive damages. The Defendants appealed. The Court of Appeals upheld the award of actual damages, but reversed the award of punitive damages. Both parties petitioned the South Carolina Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari which was granted on March 5, 2013. The matter settled immediately after certiorari was granted.

Rebecca West and William West v. Flooring by Cogdill

2006 CP 40 1591

This suit was a subrogation claim filed against a company that installed carpet at my home. The contractor that installed the carpet was negligent and started a fire that caused damage to my home. My homeowners' insurance carrier pursued the subrogation claim on our behalf and the case settled at mediation. The case was disposed of on April 2, 2007. The Defendant did not file a counterclaim.

I am also writing to reflect the following revision to Question #6 of the JMSC Statement of Economic Interests Form and Question #16 of the State Ethics Commission Statement of Economic Interests Form:

I am a one-half owner of Harling & West, LLC. Jonathan Harling is my partner and owns one-half of the firm.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Rebecca West