

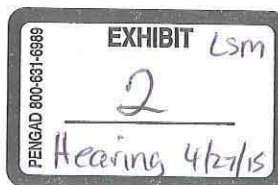
**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:

Family Court, Fourth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

1. NAME: The Honorable Bryan W. Braddock
 BUSINESS ADDRESS: 2231 W. Palmetto St., Suite 203
 Florence, SC 29501
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 843-292-8780
2. Date of Birth: 1973
 Place of Birth: Florence, South Carolina
3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes
 Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes
5. Family Status: Married on June 8, 2002 to Dusty Renae Spring Braddock. Never divorced.
 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) North Carolina State University, 1991-1992; transferred;
 - (b) College of Charleston, 1992-1995; Bachelor of Science, Political Science; Minors: Sociology, Criminal Justice, International Affairs with a Focus on Russian and the Former Soviet Union.
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.
 South Carolina, 1998
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) North Carolina State University Formal Brass Quintet, Fall of 1991;
 - (b) College of Charleston Pep Band, 1992-1995;
 - (c) College of Charleston Jazz Band, 1992-1995;
 - (d) Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Fraternity, College of Charleston Chapter, 1994-1995;
 - (e) Tutor, Cities in Schools Program, 1993-1995.
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(s)</u>
(a) SCSCJA Annual Legislative Seminar	3/25/15 (signed up);
(b) Annual Meeting and CLE Seminar (Municipal Association)	12/5/2014;
(c) 2014 SCAJ Annual Convention	8/7/2014;
(d) Lawyer Mentoring Program	7/15/2014;



- (e) 2013 Hot Tips Domestic Seminar 9/27/2013;
 - (f) Nit, Grit, and Wit: Tales and Talk on Ethics,
Substance Abuse 9/26/2013;
 - (g) 2013 SCAJ Annual Convention 8/2/2013;
 - (h) Family Court Mediation Training 7/11/2013-7/15/2013;
 - (i) [Municipal Judge Training] 3/18/2013;
 - (j) 2012 SCAJ Annual Convention 8/2/2012;
 - (k) 2011 SCAJ Annual Convention 8/4/2011;
 - (l) 2010 SCAJ Annual Convention 8/5/2010;
 - (m) Sporting Clays CLE: Ethics with Judges 4/29/2010;
 - (n) Understanding/Defending DUI Cases 4/9/2010;
 - (o) Training for Attorneys Appointed in Abuse
and Neglect Cases; Twelfth Judicial Circuit 1/15/2010.
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?
- (a) Better Organize Divorce Cases for Trial, presented for NBI, 12/03/2007;
 - (b) Use of Web-based software in family court practices; SCAJ Hilton Head Convention, August, 2009;
 - (c) Family Court Case Law Updates, SCAJ Hilton Head Convention, August of 2010;
 - (d) Family Court Case Law Updates, SCAJ Hilton Head Convention, August of 2011;
 - (e) Family Court Case Law Updates, SCAJ Hilton Head Convention, August of 2012;
 - (f) Family Law Essentials Program, SC Bar CLE, June 27, 2014;
 - (g) Family Law Essentials Program, SC Bar CLE, June 26, 2015 (scheduled).
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) South Carolina State Bar (November 16, 1998);
 - (b) South Carolina District Court (April 12, 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) Clerk for the Honorable Paul M. Burch, August 1998- August 1999; Circuit Court Clerk;
 - (b) Saleeby & Cox, P.A., Associate Attorney, October 1999- August 2005; Practice Areas: Domestic: 50%; Personal Injury: 30%; Criminal/Traffic: 15%; Miscellaneous: 5%;
 - (c) Darlington County Public Defender's Office: Part-time Public Defender, 2000-2001;
 - (d) Young, Miller, & Braddock, LLC, Full Partner, August 2005- March 2012; Practice Areas: Domestic: 80%; Personal Injury/Workers' Compensation: 10%; Criminal/Traffic: 10%;
 - (e) South Carolina Department of Social Service: Contract DSS Abuse and

- Neglect Attorney for Lee County, 2011-June 30, 2013 (Contract ended);
- (f) Braddock Law Firm, LLC, Sole Partner, March 2012 – Present. Practice Areas: Domestic: 90%; Personal Injury/Workers' Compensation: 5%; Criminal/Traffic: 5%. As part of my practice, I am a certified Family Court mediator;
 - (g) Municipal Judge, City of Hartsville, July 2012-Present;
 - (h) Magistrate Judge, Darlington County, April 3, 2013-July 25, 2013 [Special Temporary Appointment by Supreme Court].
15. 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.
- (a) Divorce/Annulment/Common Law Marriages: I have prosecuted and defended cases involving every actionable ground for divorce. I have been successful in having Court find common law marriages. I have successfully argued for annulments;
 - (b) Equitable Division of Property: I have been involved in equitable divisions including arguments of marital versus non-marital status of property, arguments of constructive trusts, arguments for special interest trusts, division of defined benefit and defined contribution retirement plans, cases in which both real property and personal property appraisers were utilized, and case involving arguments of transmutation;
 - (c) Child Custody: I have successfully obtained custody for fathers, mothers, step-fathers, grandparents, distant family members, and psychological parents. I have been involved in cases involving various experts, including counselors psychologists, and psychiatrists;
 - (d) Adoptions/TPRs: I have handled cases involving the voluntary and involuntary termination of parental rights. I have handled adoptions for family members, step-parents, and unrelated third parties. I have handled private adoption and special needs adoptions;
 - (e) Abuse and Neglect: I served from 2011 until 2013 as a part-time DSS contract attorney for conflict cases within Lee County. This has included more than a dozen cases, including at least three which have required the filing and trial for Termination of Parental Rights of the biological parents. One case had to be tried over an eight (8) day period. As a private attorney, I have handled dozens of DSS Abuse and Neglect cases alleging all levels of abuse, including one case which I handled from the very beginning, through the involuntary TPR stage, and through the appeal to the Court of Appeals;
 - (f) Juvenile Justice: As a private attorney and during my brief stint as a part-time Public Defender, I have handled a substantial number of DJJ cases. I have also recently served as a volunteer Guardian for Juvenile Defendants in DJJ cases where the parent or custodian had a conflict.

16. 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.
Martindale-Hubbell: AV-rated (4.7 out of 5.0)
AVVO: (10.0 rating)
17. 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: 2%;
 (b) criminal: 5%;
 (c) domestic: 93%;
 (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: 2%;
 (b) non-jury: 98%.
- Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?
 Sole Counsel on non-jury trials, Chief Counsel on jury trials
20. 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) Windell Brown vs. Cynthia Brown cases: During a series of separate cases between these parties, I argued for a termination of child support based upon the emancipation of the minor daughter, against a Risinger claim filed on behalf of that same child, for two transfers of the custody of another child of the parties, for child support and alimony modifications, and for the termination of permanent, periodic alimony based upon continued cohabitation of the Defendant with a paramour;
- (b) Wright Adoption: An adoption case in which I represented the adopting parties in involuntarily terminating the parental rights of the two parents, one of whom became psychologically incapacitated during the pendency of the case. During the pendency of the case, my clients also lost one of their biological children in an automobile accident and eventually separated while the adoption was still pending. I was able to complete the adoption despite these circumstances;
- (c) SC DSS v. Covington & McCullough: As attorney for the Department of Social Services in Lee County, I pursued the termination of the parental rights of the biological parents of a minor child who was the victim of sexual abuse. The mother was criminal charged as having committed the abuse against her daughter, and I was able to obtain a finding of Sexual Abuse against her through the DSS proceedings. The subsequent action for termination of parental rights culminated in an eight (8)-day trial, which included the presentation of multiple expert witnesses on behalf of the Department of Social Services, from which the Court issued an order terminating the parents' rights;

- (d) State versus Lawand Sellers: Charged with Assault and Battery, First Degree, and Armed Robbery, my client was facing a possibility of forty (40) years in prison, with a mandatory minimum of ten (10) years, violent, non-parole eligible. I was able to try the matter to a conclusion, and obtained Not Guilty verdicts from the jury on both counts;
- (e) Johnson Divorce: In this case, the other party's parents had built the marital home and sold it to the parties for about 30% of its fair market value. However, my client had also paid the proceeds from the sale of his pre-marital home to his in-laws. When they divorced, the other party tried to claim a special equity interest in the home, asserting a position that 70% of the equity in the home should be hers alone based upon the contribution of her family. I was able to defeat this claim. I also was able to get the Court to use my appraiser's value for the home and, after the other party tried to claim that there were only \$7,500 in marital personal property, I was able to use a personal property appraiser to show that the correct value was approximately \$25,000. In addition to this successful argument regarding the equitable distribution, I was able to gain enough visitation for my client as the secondary custodian of the minor children that he actually received child support from the other party, the primary custodian, due to the discrepancy in incomes.
21. 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).
- (a) South Carolina Department of Social Services vs. Marggie Hutson, Eliseo Perez, and Landin Nuan Perez, from the Family Court; Unpublished Opinion No. 2006-UP-238; filed May 15, 2006
22. 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. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter).
- None.
23. Have you ever held judicial office?
- (a) Hartsville Municipal Judge (Part-time): August 2012- Present: Hired by City Council after application process and interview. Municipal Judge has the jurisdiction to issue arrest warrants, search warrants, and bench warrants; set bonds for all offenses except those which carry a potential life sentence (although recent legislation allows for the setting of bond on Burglary 1st Degree unless the Solicitor objects; preside over bench trials and jury trials for criminal and traffic offenses; Municipal Judge has jurisdiction over those offenses which are not required to be handled in the Court of General Sessions;
- (b) Darlington County Magistrate (Part-time): April 3, 2013-July 25, 2013: Appointed by Chief Justice Jean Toal to assist with bonding matters, to include signing search warrants, arrest warrants, and setting bonds anywhere within Darlington County. Appointment ended with the election of new Magistrates, which ended the need for my service.
24. If the answer to question 23 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.

- None.
25. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? 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?
No.
26. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.
- (a) South Carolina Department of Social Service: Contract DSS Abuse and Neglect Attorney for Lee County, 2011-June 30, 2013 (Contract ended);
- (b) Braddock Law Firm, LLC, Sole Partner, March 2012 – Present. Practice Areas: Domestic: 90%; Personal Injury/Workers' Compensation: 5%; Criminal/Traffic: 5%. I also serve as a mediator in private cases and for *pro ses* in Florence, Darlington, Marlboro, and Chesterfield Counties.
27. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? I sought election as a Family Court Judge in the Spring of 2009 and the Spring of 2011.
28. 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?
No.
29. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?
None, other than my law firm.
30. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
31. 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.
32. 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.
33. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute?
No.
34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy?
No.
35. 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 late 2010, I was a named Defendant in a lawsuit against myself, my partner, and our law firm based upon an unpaid loan which was taken out by the firm. That matter was settled. I have never been sued personally in a professional capacity, nor has any firm with which I have been employed or a partner been sued directly related to my conduct or omissions.
37. 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.

38. 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? Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy.

To my knowledge, I have been covered by malpractice insurance for the entirety of my legal career since ending my Circuit Court clerkship in August of 1999. I have never required a tail policy.

My current insurance coverage is as follows: Crum & Forster-United States Fire Insurance Company; \$1,000,000 Each Claim; \$2,000,000 Policy Aggregate; \$5,000 Deductible for Each Claim

39. 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 have a Facebook account, my Law Firm has a Facebook account, and my wife set up a Pinterest Account which I have never used. As a member of the Judiciary, it is incumbent that my presence on the Internet and any such sites conform with both the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Judicial Canons.

40. 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.

41. 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.

42. 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.

43. 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.

44. 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 thus far.

45. 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.

46. 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.
47. 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?
While I have a number of friends and/or colleagues who have offered to contact member of the General Assembly, I have instructed them to wait until the appropriate time.
48. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy?
No.
49. 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.
50. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
- (a) South Carolina Bar Association;
 - (b) Darlington County Bar;
 - (c) Florence County Bar;
 - (d) South Carolina Association for Justice: Board of Governors (2008- 2014);
 - (e) South Carolina Association for Justice: Legislative Planning Steering Committee (Family Court Representative; 2008- 2012);
 - (f) South Carolina Association for Justice: Family Law Division Chair (2012-Present);
 - (g) South Carolina Summary Court Judge's Association (January 2013- Present);
 - (h) South Carolina Bar, Resolution of Fee Dispute Board (2012 – Present); Chair of formal hearing panel, 2013;
 - (i) South Carolina Association for Justice: Executive Committee (2012- 2014);
 - (j) South Carolina Bar Property Arbitration Panel list for Darlington County (2011; 2013-Present); Chair of Arbitration Panel, 2014; and
 - (k) Supreme Court Lawyer Mentoring Program (2014).
51. 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) College of Charleston Alumni Association;
 - (b) Northern League Baseball League (2012, 2013; baseball coach; Board Member, 2012-Present);
 - (c) Hartsville Area Recreational Department (2011: assistant football coach);
 - (d) Prospect United Methodist, Choir Director (1999- Present);
 - (e) Prospect United Methodist, PPRC Member (including Chair) and Board of Trustees (including Chair) (multiple years);
 - (f) Mock Trial Coach, South Carolina Governor's School for the Math and Science (Multiple years);

- (g) Mock Trial Judge, South Carolina Middle School Competition, November, 2012;
- (h) Hartsville Upward Basketball League, basketball league (9-10 year olds), 2013-2015;
- (i) University of South Carolina School of Law, 20th Class Reunion Committee;
- (j) South Carolina United Methodist Conference, Board of Trustees (2011-Present; Vice Chairman: 2011-2013; Chairman: 2013 – Present).

52. 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.

I am running for the position of a South Carolina Family Court Judge because I believe this would provide the greatest opportunity to have a positive impact on as many people as possible through the Family Court; because I believe my attitude and demeanor would have a positive effect on both the parties and practitioners appearing before me; because I believe that our Family Court system is the most equitable and just part of our judicial system.

I have spent over the last decade of my legal career attempting to gain as wide and varied experience as possible within the Family Court, including serving as a part-time attorney for DSS, volunteering as a Guardian for minor Defendants in DJJ matters, mediating Family Court actions, and handling all kinds of Family Court actions. I desire to bring all this experience onto the bench as a Family Court Judge.

53. References:

- (a) The Honorable C. Melvin Pennington, IV
133 West Carolina Avenue
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550
843383-3827;
- (b) Eugene P. Warr, Jr., Esquire
2917 W. Palmetto Street,
Florence, South Carolina, 29503
843-665-8187;
- (c) Kevin M. Barth, Esquire
Post Office Box 107,
Florence, South Carolina, 29202
843-662-6301;
- (d) John S. Nichols, Esquire
1614 Taylor Street,
Columbia, South Carolina, 29202
803-779-7599;
- (e) William B. Varn , President/CEO of SPC Credit Union
PO Box 1355
Hartsville, South Carolina 29551
843-383-0090.

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

Signature: s/B. W. Braddock

Date: March 2, 2015

BRADDOCK LAW FIRM, LLC

2231 W. PALMETTO STREET, SUITE 203

FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29501

TELEPHONE: 843.292.8780

FACSIMILE: 843.292.8785

BRYAN W. BRADDOCK, ESQUIRE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

WRITER'S E-MAIL ADDRESS:

JUSTICE_JACKSON@HOTMAIL.COM

March 18, 2015

Judicial Merit Selection Committee
ATTN: Jaynie Jordan
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

RE: Supplemental Submission for Bryan W. Braddock

Dear Ms. Jordan:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation this afternoon, please find enclosed Mr. Braddock's Supplemental Submission to his Personal Data Questionnaire, along with the supporting documentation.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information regarding these documents.

With Kindest Regards,



Pam Evans
Assistant to Bryan W. Braddock

Enclosures (As Noted)

**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

SUPPLEMENTAL SUBMISSION:

Question 35: *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? If so, give details, including but not limited to dates, and resolution.*


I was informed today that I was named as a Defendant in a civil action in a 2012 foreclosure action in Darlington County. I was not previously aware of this fact. The record obtained from the Clerk of Court in Darlington reflect that a foreclosure action was filed on August 6, 2012 against my former client and her husband. Pursuant to the Decree of Divorce and Order Approving Agreement filed with the Darlington County Family Court from a hearing held on April 4, 2011, the husband was awarded possession and sole responsibility for the residence, which the parties acknowledged was likely to go into foreclosure. As part of that same Decree, attorney's fees and costs of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) were required to be paid by the other party Mr. Marks to my office. These funds were paid by Mr. Marks.

On August 13, 2012, apparently having discovered that the attorney fee and cost award had been satisfied by Mr. Marks, it appears that an Amended Summons and Complaint was filed with the Clerk of Court removing me as a party to the action. To my knowledge, I was never served with any pleadings related to this litigation, and I do not believe I was ever aware of having been a party to the foreclosure. No judgment was ever obtained against me, and I was in fact a creditor with a pre-existing judgment, which is the only reason I was named.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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 SUPPLEMENTAL ANSWER IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: 

Date: March 17, 2015