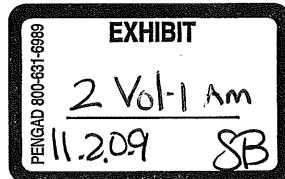


Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
At-Large Court; Seat 8
Candidate's Name: D. Craig Brown
Fall Screening 2009

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X



	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. <u>Experience</u>: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <u>Judicial Temperament</u>: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:** Even-tempered; works equally well with plaintiffs and defendants.

Summary Statement: This committee believes Mr. Brown would make an excellent judge.

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

D. Craig Brown
Candidate's Name

Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Retired; Court of Appeals
Candidate's Name: Judge Ralph King Anderson
Fall Screening 2009

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. <u>Experience</u>: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <u>Judicial Temperament</u>: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement: Judge Anderson's contributions to our judicial system are significant and his qualifications to serve on the bench are without question.

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Ralph King Anderson
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
 Master-in-Equity Court; Sumter County
 Candidate's Name: Judge Richard L. Booth
 Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. <u>Experience</u>: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <u>Judicial Temperament</u>: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement: Judge Booth is well-qualified for this job and all persons involved in the screening of Judge Booth were highly complimentary of the manner in which he operates the Master's office.

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Richard L. Booth
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Fourth Circuit Court; Seat 1
Candidate's Name: Judge Paul M. Burch
Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnol
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Paul M. Burch
Candidate's Name

Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Master-in-Equity Court; Clarendon County
Candidate's Name: Judge William C. Coffey
Fall Screening 2009

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. <u>Character:</u> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. <u>Reputation:</u> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. <u>Physical Health:</u> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. <u>Mental Stability:</u> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:** well-liked and respected
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnol
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge William C. Coffey
Candidate's Name

Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Retired; Circuit Court
Candidate's Name: Judge Thomas W. Cooper, Jr.
Fall Screening 2009

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. <u>Character:</u> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. <u>Reputation:</u> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. <u>Physical Health:</u> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. <u>Mental Stability:</u> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:** Calm and gracious

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Thomas W. Cooper, Jr.
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Third Circuit Court; Seat 1
Candidate's Name: Judge Ralph Ferrell Cothran, Jr.
Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Ralph Ferrell Cothran, Jr.
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Administrative Law Court; Seat 6
Candidate's Name: Judge B. Keith Griffin
Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:** Personable and courteous

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge B. Keith Griffin
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
4th Circuit Family Court; Seat 1
Candidate's Name: Judge Roger E. Henderson
Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:** Has a very good reputation in the community
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnol
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Roger E. Henderson
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Fifteenth Circuit Court; Seat 1
Candidate's Name: Judge Steven H. John
Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:** Can sometimes be a little impatient in the courtroom.

Summary Statement: Generally well-liked and well-respected judge.

Diane Rabon Bagnol
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Steven H. John
Candidate's Name

Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
Retired; Circuit Court
Candidate's Name: Judge Howard P. King
Fall Screening 2009

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. Experience: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. Judicial Temperament: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement: Judge King has the reputation of a fine man and an excellent judge.

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Howard P. King
Candidate's Name

Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
15th Circuit Family Court; Seat 2
Candidate's Name: Judge Lisa D. Kinon
Fall Screening 2009

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. <u>Experience</u>: The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <u>Judicial Temperament</u>: A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement: Judge Kinon impressed the Committee with her enthusiasm for her job. We believe she is well-suited to continue as a family court judge.

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Lisa D. Kinon
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
3rd Circuit Family Court; Seat 1
Candidate's Name: Judge George M. McFaddin, Jr.
Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. <u>Experience:</u> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <u>Judicial Temperament:</u> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:** Known in the community as an honest, caring judge who diligently tries to do what is in the best interests of the parties before him.
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:**

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge George M. McFaddin, Jr.
Candidate's Name

Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
12th Circuit Family Court; Seat 3
Candidate's Name: Judge Jerry D. Vinson, Jr.
Fall Screening 2009

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. <u>Experience:</u> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <u>Judicial Temperament:</u> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:** Consistently described as fair, organized, and passionate about children and the law
5. **Reputation:**
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:** Gracious and respectful to parties and attorneys.

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Jerry D. Vinson, Jr.
Candidate's Name

**Citizens Committee Report/S.C. Bar Judicial Qualifications Committee Report
At-Large Court; Seat 8
Candidate's Name: Judge Jennifer P. Wilson
Fall Screening 2009**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
1. Constitutional Qualifications: A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
2. Ethical Fitness: A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
3. Professional and Academic Ability: A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
4. Character: The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
5. Reputation: Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
6. Physical Health: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
7. Mental Stability: The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well-Qualified
8. <u>Experience:</u> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <u>Judicial Temperament:</u> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

Related Comments:

1. **Constitutional Qualifications:**
2. **Ethical Fitness:**
3. **Professional and Academic Ability:**
4. **Character:**
5. **Reputation:** well-respected
6. **Physical Health:**
7. **Mental Stability**
8. **Experience:**
9. **Judicial Temperament:** firm yet fair demeanor

Summary Statement:

Diane Rabon Bagnal
Committee Chair's Name

9/14/09
Date

Judge Jennifer P. Wilson
Candidate's Name