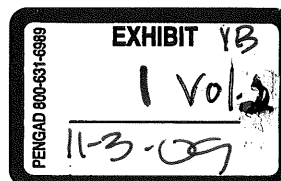


JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:
Resident Circuit Judge, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat #1

1. NAME: Mr. Steven H. John
BUSINESS ADDRESS: c/o Horry County Justice Center
1301 Second Avenue, Suite 3A30
Conway, S.C. 29566
E-MAIL ADDRESS: sjohnj@sccourts.org
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): (843) 915-6696
2. Date of Birth: 1953
Place of Birth: Augusta, Georgia
3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes, since immediately after my birth
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes, my entire life
5. Family Status: Married on September 1, 1990, to Susan Watts John. Never divorced. One child.
6. Have you served in the military? No
7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) The Citadel, 1971-75, BA Political Science.
 - (b) The University of South Carolina Law School, 1975-78, Juris Doctor.
 - (c) I have successfully completed and received post graduate degree credit for ten (10) hours from the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada.
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, 1978
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) The Citadel- Cross Country
 - (b) Debate Team
 - (c) Honor Court
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) 2008 SCLA Annual Convention	08/07/08;
(b) 2008 Judicial Conference	08/20-22/08;



- | | | |
|------|--|--------------|
| (c) | 7 th Annual Civil Law Update | 01/23/09; |
| (d) | 24 th Annual SC Criminal Law Update | 01/23/09; |
| (e) | Circuit Judges Conference | 05/16/07; |
| (f) | 2007 Annual Judicial Conference | 08/22/07; |
| (g) | 2007 Annual Conference | 09/23/07; |
| (h) | 23rd Annual SC Criminal Law Update | 01/25/08; |
| (i) | 6th Annual Civil Law Update | 01/25/08; |
| (j) | National Judicial College-Handling Capital Cases | 11/4-8/07; |
| (k) | Fourth Annual Civil Law Update | 01/27/06; |
| (l) | 21st Criminal Law Update | 01/27/06; |
| (m) | Judicial Writing-National Judicial College | 03/27-31/06; |
| (n) | 20th Circuit Court Judges | 05/8-10/06; |
| (o) | 2006 Annual Judicial Conference | 08/23-24/06; |
| (p) | 2006 SC Annual SC Solicitors' | 09/24-27/06; |
| (q) | 22nd Annual Criminal Law Update | 01/26/07; |
| (r) | 5th Annual Civil Law Update | 01/26/07; |
| (s) | 20th Annual Criminal Law Update | 01/21/05; |
| (t) | 3rd Annual Civil Law Update-Part II | 01/21/05; |
| (u) | 2005 Circuit Court Judges | 05/11/05; |
| (v) | 2005 Circuit Court Judges | 05/12/05; |
| (w) | 2005 Circuit Judges | 05/13/05; |
| (x) | 2005 Annual Judicial Conference | 08/24-25/05; |
| (y) | Annual Meeting-SCDTTA | 11/03-6/05; |
| (z) | SC Solicitors' Assoc. Conference | 09/25-28/05; |
| (aa) | 19th Annual Criminal Law Update | 01/23/04; |
| (bb) | 2nd Annual Civil Law Update | 01/23/04; |
| (cc) | 2004 SC Circuit Judges | 05/5-7/04; |
| (dd) | Judicial Conference | 08/19/04; |
| (ee) | Judicial Oath of Office | 08/19/04; |
| (ff) | 2004 Annual SC Solicitors' Conference | 09/26/04; |
| (gg) | National Judicial College Advanced Evidence | 11/15-18/04. |
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? N/A
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. N/A
13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
- | | |
|-----|--|
| (a) | State Courts of South Carolina- November 8, 1978; |
| (b) | U.S. District Court for South Carolina- October, 4, 1979 |
| (c) | U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals- October 31, 1979 |
| (d) | U.S. Supreme Court- April 20, 1987 |

14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
- (a) LAW CLERK TO THE HONORABLE SIDNEY T. FLOYD, RESIDENT JUDGE, FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, 1978 – 1980
 - (b) PRIVATE TRIAL PRACTICE, 1981 – May 2001. Opened solo practice in N. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, in 1986, having an active trial practice in all of the State Courts. In Civil Court, cases ranging from contracts to automobile accidents to multi-million dollar construction cases; Criminal Court, cases ranging from traffic offenses to court appointed defense in death penalty cases; Family Court, cases from uncontested divorces to all manner of contested family disputes.
 - (c) COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL REFEREE in the Circuit Court, appointed by Judges Sidney T. Floyd and David H. Maring, Sr., in over fifty (50) cases.
 - (d) CERTIFIED CIRCUIT COURT ARBITRATOR, by South Carolina Supreme Court Board of Arbitration.
 - (e) COURT APPOINTED MEDIATOR in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, appointed by Judges Sidney T. Floyd and David H. Maring, Sr., in over fifty (50) cases.
 - (f) COURT APPOINTED GUARDIAN AD LITEM in disputed child custody cases in the Family Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, in over One Hundred (100) cases.
 - (g) CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH ZONING BOARD, 1993 – May, 2001
 - (h) PRO BONO LAWYER FOR Horry COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS AGENCY, 1993 – May, 2001
15. What is your rating in Martindale-Hubbell? Last available rating-AV
22. Have you ever held judicial office?
 Yes, I was elected as the Resident Judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat #1, on May 30, 2001. This is a court of general jurisdiction for civil and criminal court.
23. If the answer to question 22 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.
- (a) State v. Corey Sparkman, Op. No. 25816, S.C. Supreme Court
 - (b) B&A Development Inc., et.al.v. Georgetown County, et al., Op. No. 3877, S.C. Court of Appeals
 - (c) Patricia Grand Hotel, LLC v. MacGuire Enterprises, Inc, Op. No. 4226, S.C. Court of Appeals
 - (d) State of South Carolina v. Stanley Dantonio, Jr., Op. No. 4333, S.C. Court of Appeals
 - (e) Terry Cartrette Tindal v. H&S Homes. LLC., Unpublished Op. No. 2005-UP-535, S.C. Court of Appeals

24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? No
25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. None
26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?
- In 1998 I filed as a candidate for Seat #2 of the Circuit Court, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. I was qualified as one of the three (3) candidates by the Judicial Merit Selection Commission for this seat. At Large Judge Paula Thomas was the eventual successful candidate. In the fall of 1998, I filed as a candidate for At Large Seat #1 of the Circuit Court of the State of South Carolina. I withdrew as a candidate for this seat which the Honorable John Milling won by acclamation. In 1999, I filed as a candidate for At Large Seat #8 of the Circuit Court of South Carolina. I was rated as qualified by not selected for this seat which the Honorable Kenneth G. Goode won by acclamation.
27. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? No
28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? No
29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. None
31. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? No
32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No
33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No
34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law?

Shortly after starting to work for John R. Clarke, Esquire in 1981, I was called to Circuit Court on a case previously filed by Mr. Clarke. Though I knew nothing about the case and had never met the client, and Mr. Clarke was either in another court or out of state, I was ordered by the Circuit Judge to try the

case, which I attempted to do to the best of my ability. At some point in the trial the Court directed a verdict for the Defendant. Thereafter, the Defendant in this action sued the client, Mr. Clarke, and myself. I was dismissed from the case pursuant to a summary judgment motion, due to the circumstances described above, and later the total case was dismissed by summary judgment motion.

36. 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
37. 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
38. 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
39. 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
40. 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
41. 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
42. 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
43. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No
44. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No

45. 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
46. 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 – 1978 to present
 - (b) Horry County Bar Association – 1978 – 2001- active
Horry County Bar Association – 2001- present – Honorary
47. 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) Rotary International – 1987 – present; Rotary Club of North Myrtle Beach, 1987 – 2002; Rotary Club of Conway, 2003 – present. I have been a member of the Rotary Club of North Myrtle Beach Board of Directors and held numerous committee chairmanships. I am also a Paul Harris Fellow and a Sustaining Member and have received the perfect attendance award each year since joining in 1987.
 - (b) Optimist International and local North Myrtle Beach Club 1987 – 96. I was a member of the Board of Directors and held various officer positions.
 - (c) Citadel Brigadier Club
 - (d) Horry County Citadel Club
 - (e) University of South Carolina Gamecock Club
48. 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. None
49. References:
- (a) Edward T. Kelaher, Rector
All Saints Parish, Waccamaw Episcopal Church
10172 Ocean Highway
US Hwy. 17
Pawleys Island, SC 29585
 - (b) Rev. Donald R. Steins
Pastor, Kingston Presbyterian Church
800 Third Avenue
Conway, SC 29526
 - (c) Laurence W. Moreland
Professor Emeritus, The Citadel
809 Rutledge Avenue
Charleston, S.C. 29403
 - (d) Dr. Philip A. Nofal
Medical Director

284 Executive Park Drive, Suite 100
Concord, NC 28025

(e) David Welborn
Bank Officer, Wachovia Bank
1412 Third Avenue
Conway, SC 29526

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

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

Signature: Steven H. John

Date: August 5, 2009



State of South Carolina
The Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

STEVEN H. JOHN
RESIDENT JUDGE

1301 SECOND AVENUE, 3A30
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA 29526
(843) 915-6696
FAX: (843) 915-5859

August 17, 2009

Jane O. Shuler, Chief Counsel
Judicial Merit Selection Commission
P.O. Box 142
Columbia, SC 29202

Re: Personal Data Questionnaire

Dear Jane:

I recently sent to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission my Personal Data Questionnaire along with the other information on August 6, 2009, which you received on August 10, 2009. I need to amend question number 15, of the PDQ. My answer to the Martindale-Hubbell rating should have been **AV** instead of **BV**.

Thank you for your consideration of this change.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven H. John", written over a horizontal line.

STEVEN H. JOHN
*Resident Circuit Judge
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit*

SHJ/mc