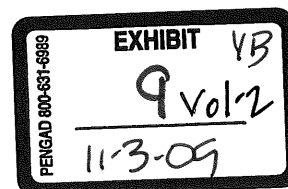


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

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

1. NAME: Ms. Vicki Johnson Snelgrove
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Post Office Box 2619
Aiken, South Carolina 29802
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 803-649-5338
2. Date of Birth: 1957
Place of Birth: Aiken County, 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 October 2, 1982, to Von Pope Snelgrove. Never divorced, two children.
6. Have you served in the military? No.
7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) University of South Carolina in Columbia- August 1975 to May 1979
Bachelor of Arts Humanities (English);
 - (b) University of South Carolina School of Law- August 1979 to May 1982
J.D.
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, 1982, took bar once.
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.
Law School Moot Court Team went to Nationals
Third Best Oralist
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) Family Law Section Meeting of SC Bar Convention	1/23/04
	1/27/06
	1/23/07
	1/23/08



- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| (b) | Family Law Intensive Workshop-
Use of Psychologists in Family Court | 4/24/04 |
| (c) | South Carolina Trial Lawyers Association-
Family Court Seminar and Ethics Seminar | 8/5/04
8/4/05
8/3/06
8/2/07
8/7/08 |
| (d) | SCAJ- Annual Convention-
Family Court Seminar and Ethics Seminar | 8/7/08 |
| (e) | 60 Tips to Build a Successful Practice | 4/22/05 |
| (f) | Hot Tips Seminar- Family Court | 9/23/05
9/22/06
3/23/07
9/14/08 |
| (g) | Children's Issues in Family Court | 3/17/06
3/23/08 |
| (h) | Family Law Intensive Workshop-
Complete Tax and Financial issues in Family Court | 11/2/06 |
| (i) | Family Law Intensive Workshop-
Improving Your Family Law Practice | 11/21/08 |
| (j) | SideBar, SC Live- Significant Family Law Cases | 2/20/09 |
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
- (a) I have taught at Family Law Hot Tips seminars on at least nine (9) occasions; the topics have ranged from ideas on making a domestic practice more efficient to putting a client to work and maximizing work while minimizing the attorney's fees;
 - (b) I have presented at The South Carolina Trial Lawyers Association convention- Family Law Section on at least seven (7) different occasions; these were case law updates on the various issues in Family Court (alimony, child support, etc.);
 - (c) I have presented at a local county bar seminar on the UCCJEA v. UCCJA. I repeated this same information on a radio talk show;
 - (d) I have presented at the SC Bar Convention in January and coordinated that same program;
 - (e) I have presented at other SC Bar CLE programs- Sidebar in 2008 and an Ethics seminar in 1998.
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (a) Family Law Toolkit (S.C. Bar C.L.E. 2003 and new edition yet to be published) Contributing Author;
 - (b) Marriage and Divorce Law in South Carolina A Layperson's Guide (S.C. Bar C.L.E. 1st Edition) Editorial Board.

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.

Admitted to practice before the South Carolina Supreme Court in 1982.

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) Johnson, Johnson, Maxwell, Whittle and Snelgrove, Attorneys P.A.
1982-89;

(b) Johnson, Johnson, Maxwell, Whittle, Snelgrove and Weeks, Attorneys P.A.
1989-92;

(c) Johnson, Johnson, Whittle, Snelgrove and Weeks, Attorneys P.A.
1992-95;

(d) Johnson, Johnson, Whittle and Snelgrove, Attorneys P.A.
1995-2009.

If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, the following questions are inapplicable:

- (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Judge, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law Judge Division.

Divorce and Equitable Division: I have represented parties in divorce and equitable division cases since 1982. These cases have included marital estates that had a negative value (debts exceeded assets) and marital estates that had a value in excess of twenty-four million dollars. I have represented parties in contested and uncontested divorces on all fault grounds, proven and disproven common law marriages. I have prepared simple Separation Agreements and prepared complex Separation Agreements. I have had more than Two Thousand Five Hundred (2,500) court appearances. I have worked with CPA's and CVA's on business valuation cases;

Child Custody: I have represented fathers, mothers, grandparents, other relatives and friends in custody cases and trials. I have served as a Guardian ad Litem in hundreds of cases. I have negotiated settlement in custody cases for sole custody, joint custody, split custody and shared custody. I have used psychologists and other mental health professionals and have a good understanding of the roles that mental health professionals play in custody cases. I have done my best to be creative in finding solutions to acrimonious custody cases. I strive to keep children as insulated as possible from these cases. I have represented parties in grandparent visitation cases and been able to prevail so that they could see a grandchild that they had not seen in

many years. I have represented a family unrelated to a child whom they had met through church so that they could provide this child the most stable home he had ever known;

Adoption: I have represented parties in hundreds of adoptions cases, contested and uncontested. I have served as Guardian in many adoption cases, some of which involved the Interstate Compact. I have represented parents making the choice to have their child/children placed for adoption. I have counseled with couples having to give up a child that had been placed with them for adoption. I have represented couples making the choice to adopt a special needs child;

Abuse and Neglect: I have served as a Guardian ad Litem, attorney for the Guardian ad Litem and attorney for parents and other accused perpetrators involved in dependency actions with the South Carolina Department of Social Services. I have proven abuse in private action cases. I have attended Foster Care Review Board Hearings. I have attended seminars on the use of professionals in abuse and neglect cases, both from the prosecution side and the defense side;

Juvenile Justice: Early in my practice, I represented several juveniles involved in the Family Court. I have limited my practice to exclude criminal cases, but stay abreast of all published cases and often converse with my law partner, who practices exclusively criminal defense work.

15. What is your rating in Martindale-Hubbell? AV.

Retired judges/justices and judges/justices applying for reelection to their current position may omit Questions 16-21. If a candidate is seeking a judgeship different than his or her current position, Questions 16-21 should be answered based on experience prior to serving on the bench.

16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the last five years?
(a) federal: 0;
(b) state: Total 536- average 107 per year (2004-2008).
17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, and domestic matters during the last five years?
(a) civil: 1% PCR appointments;
(b) criminal: 0;
(c) domestic: 99%.
18. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the last five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
(a) jury: 0;
(b) non-jury: 100%.
- Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters? Chief Counsel in 98%.

19. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

a) Ganzi v. Ganzi - 01-DR-02-2090

Total Marital Estate \$24,000,000; various pieces of real property; Personal property in excess of \$1,000,000.00. This case was set for 4 weeks to try. We tried it for approximately 5 days. We were able to discover in the middle of trial some extremely relevant falsehoods that the Husband had either told or information that he had intentionally withheld. There were 5 CPA's involved in representing the parties and assisting the attorneys. I sat as co-counsel in that case. I was in charge of the majority of the Wife's case in chief and had to prepare her for trial. Our client had had a closed head injury and was very difficult to keep focused;

(b) Davis v. Davis - 97-DR-02-2227

I handled the case at the trial level. This case mainly involved custody of a small child and possible relocation. We did not succeed at trial, but prevailed in the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court granted certiorari and reversed our short lived success. It was one of the first cases dealing with the statute on relocation with the state;

(c) Russell v. Cox - 08-DR-02-421; Opinion No. 4535 (Ct. App.)

This was one of the first cases in South Carolina under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act. Even though neither parent was actually living in the issuing state, we were able to convince the trial court and the Court of Appeals that Georgia was still the proper state to hear any modification action;

(d) Roe v. Roe - 429 S. E. 2d 830 (S. C. App. 1993)

Equitable division was the primary issue in this case. It involved an older couple (retired) creating a second career. There were substantial problems with locating financial information that the Wife kept very guarded. In fact, we never felt we got all of the documents on her financial misconduct. We were able to show to the court that even though it had been a long term marriage, that an equal division would not be equitable to the Husband, as the Wife had wasted substantial savings and destroyed what was once a sizeable marital estate;

(e) Campbell v. Campbell - 95-DR-02-286

We had over thirty-two (32) pieces of real estate, some of which were clearly marital, some clearly non-marital, some that had been transmuted, custody of a young child, adultery, alimony and attorneys fees. We introduced over one hundred (100) exhibits in this case just on behalf of the Wife. This case covered most every issue in a Family Court case. We were satisfied with the lower court's ruling. However, the Husband was not. We were able to convince the Court of Appeals

that the Family Court had listened carefully and made the correct decisions.

20. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter).
- (a) Campbell v. Campbell-10/10/00; Unpublished Opinion No. 2000-UP-609 Court of Appeals;
 - (b) Russell v. Cox - 4/27/09; Opinion No. 4535; Court of Appeals;
 - (c) Roberson v. Roberson -1/31/05; Unpublished Opinion No. 2005-UP-074; Court of Appeals;
 - (d) Robinson v. Robinson -3/15/05; Unpublished Opinion No. 2005-UP-193; Court of Appeals;
 - (e) Roe v. Roe- 4/12/93; 429 S. E. 2d 830 (S. C. App. 1993); Court of Appeals.
21. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter). N/A.
22. Have you ever held judicial office? Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court. No.
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. No.
24. 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.
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. N/A.
26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? No.
27. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? No.
28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?
Yes, Law Firm officer- Vice President; also Trustee on firm Profit Sharing Plan; meet with plan administrator re investments.
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.

Only with attorneys in present law firm; I will recuse myself from hearing any matter with which they are involved.

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? No.
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.
Postage- February 10, 2009- \$4.20
Name Tags- April 14, 2009 - \$48.15
Some long distance calls – do not know the costs.

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. -0-
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?
 Only to tell people I have an interest in the seat and asking to be introduced to members of the General Assembly and advising them that I cannot solicit commitments. I know various attorneys throughout the state, and I have called them asked that they introduce me to persons in their area who are members of the General Assembly.
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) S.C. Bar Family Law Section Council- on council for 7-8 years. I have held every officer position in that organization, including Chair in 2007-08;
 - (b) ABA- Family Law Section; member;
 - (c) S.C. Bar Family Law Taskforce- 2003-04; served as a member; chaired by Judge Rucker and Judge Leslie Riddle;
 - (d) S.C. Women's Law Association- since 2009; member;
 - (e) S.C. Association for Justice (f/k/a S.C. Trial Lawyers Association); Chair of Family Law Section Mid 1990's; member since 1984.
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) Social Concerns Committee St. Paul Lutheran Church;
 - (b) Global Mission;
 - (c) University of South Carolina in Aiken- Men's and Women's Basketball team stewardship;
 - (d) Haiti mission trip;
 - (e) Volunteer- American Cancer Society- Aiken Chapter- fundraising;

(f) Fundraiser for Hitchcock Rehabilitation Center 1999-2006.

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.

I have devoted my practice to making the Family Court experience better. The parties in this court do not see it as an easy fix to a bad decision. It is a very difficult and arduous path. I believe that each case is very important and deserving of my time and attention. I consistently look for ways to improve the lives of my clients. I have been asked to sit in on the Family Court Judges Advisory Committee meetings on rule changes. I sat on the SC Bar Family Law Taskforce in efforts "to alleviate the misery of Family Court". I keep up with new law. I actually like the practice of Family Court law and the people that practice Family Court law. They are dedicated to their clients which are the adults and children of this state.

I have been married to my husband for 27 years and have reared two daughters, Beverly who is 25 (who is a student at the Charleston School of Law) and Leigh who is 20 and a student at Wofford College. Though the Aiken County Bar does not have a formal Family Law Section, I have been the informal head regarding questions and rules regarding Family Law cases.

I have served various leadership roles within the South Carolina Bar and South Carolina Trial Lawyers. This has been an addition to leadership roles that I have had within my church. I am very self disciplined and keep abreast of cases that can affect the practice of Family Law. This is not limited to Family Law Cases. There are many evidentiary rulings in Criminal Cases and other Civil Cases that are applicable to trials in Family Law Cases. I am in the process of preparing a presentation targeting younger lawyers on trying Family Court Cases.

49. References:

- (a) Ronald A. Maxwell
P. O. Box 1115
Aiken, SC 29802
803-641-6700
- (b) Beth Barkhau
333 Northwood Dr.
Aiken, SC 29803
803-643-3030
- (c) J. Mark Taylor
P. O. Box 5709
W. Columbia, SC 29171
803-796-9160
- (d) Harry O. Weeks
1430 Nottingham Dr
Aiken, SC 29801
803-648-0138

(e) Melissa Clark
S. C. State Credit Union
210 Beaufort Street, NE
Aiken, SC 29801
803-649-0553

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: Vicki Johnson Snelgrove

Date: 7/29/09