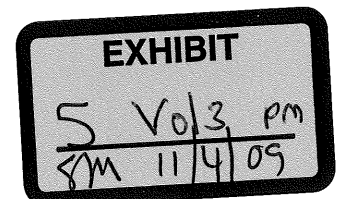


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:  
Family Court, First Judicial Circuit, Seat 3

1. NAME: Mrs. Nancy Chapman McLin  
BUSINESS ADDRESS: 212 Deming Way, Suite 5  
Summerville, SC 29483  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: nmclinj@sccourts.org  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (Office): (843) 832-0387
2. Date of Birth: 1963  
Place of Birth: Walterboro, SC
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 September 12, 1992, to Ray E. McLin, Jr. 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) University of South Carolina  
August 1981- June 1985  
Bachelor of Science, Business Administration;
  - (b) University of South Carolina  
School of Law  
August 1985 – May 1988  
Juris Doctor.
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 1988. I only took the SC bar exam once and passed.
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) Gymnastics Club 1981;
  - (b) Dean's List;
  - (c) Mt. Hebron UMC Hand Bell Choir;
  - (d) Phi Alpha Delta (1987-1988).



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) 2009 Family Court Conference	4/23/09
(b) 2008 SC Family Court Bench/Bar	12/05/08
(c) 2008 Annual Judicial Conference	08/20/08
(d) 2008 Family Court Judges' Conference	04/23/08
(e) 2008 SC Bar Conference-Family Law Section	01/25/08
(g) 2007 Family Court Bench/Bar	12/07/07
(h) 2007 Annual Judicial Conference	08/22/07
(i) 2007 Family Court Judges Conference	04/25/07
(j) 2007 SC Bar Conference-Family Law Section	01/25/07
(k) 2006 Family Court Bench/Bar	12/01/06
(l) 2006 Annual Judicial Conference	08/24/06
(m) 2006 Family Court Judges Conference	04/26/06
(n) 2006 SC Bar Conference-Family Law Section	01/27/06
(o) 2005 Family Court Bench/Bar	12/02/05
(p) 2005 Annual Judicial Conference	08/24/05
(q) 2005 Family Court Judges Conference	04/27/05
(r) 2005 SC Bar Conference-Family Law Section	01/21/05
(s) 2004 SC Family Court Bench/Bar	12/03/04
(t) 2004 Annual Judicial Conference	08/19/04
(u) 2004 Family Court Judges' Conference	04/28/04
(v) 2004 SC Bar Conference-Family Law Section	01/23/04

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 lectured at the South Carolina Bar Association CLE, Tips from the Bench, III. Topic: Adoptions;
- (b) I lectured at the South Carolina Bar Association CLE, Tips from the Bench II. Topic: Adoptions;
- (c) I lectured at the Charleston County Bar Association CLE, Family Law, 11-30-01. Topic: Family Court Check Lists;
- (d) I lectured at a seminar on Domestic Law in South Carolina, sponsored by the National Business Institute. The topics of the lecture included prenuptial agreements, alimony, child support, custody, equitable distribution issues and a South Carolina Law update. I assisted in the preparation of the written materials with Diane Schafer Goodstein, who was originally scheduled to lecture; however, I ultimately lectured at the seminar along with another attorney when Goodstein was unable to participate. Domestic Law in South Carolina, on or about August 25, 1992.

12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

The only published articles/materials published would be the materials published for the above referenced CLE's discussed in question 11 above.

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) Admitted to practice before the State Courts of South Carolina in 1988;
- (b) Admitted to practice before the Federal District Court in 1991;
- (c) Admitted to practice and Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in 1997.

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) June 1, 1998 – Present, Family Court Judge, First Judicial Circuit, Seat 3;
- (b) April/May 1998: Attorney with law firm of Rosen, Goodstein, and Hagood. I was technically an employee of Rosen, Goodstein & Hagood for approximately two (2) weeks when my previous firm of Goodstein & Goodstein merged with the firm of Rosen, Rosen & Hagood to form the new firm of Rosen, Goodstein & Hagood. During my brief employment with this firm, I was in the process of closing my law practice;
- (c) 1990-98: Attorney with the firm of Goodstein & Goodstein, P.A. During my employment with Goodstein & Goodstein, I enjoyed a general law practice, including but not limited to family law, personal injury, products liability, education law, employment law, and criminal law. The majority of my practice involved domestic cases;
- (d) 1988-90: Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable William T. Howell. At the time of my employment, Judge Howell was an At-Large, Circuit Judge. He subsequently was elected as the Chief Judge for the South Carolina Court of Appeals. As Judge Howell's law clerk, I had the following responsibilities: legal research; drafting orders; docket management; coordination of motion hearings; review of briefs, memorandums, motions and other legal pleadings; and preparation of voir dire and jury charges.

15. What is your rating in Martindale-Hubbell?

Prior to my position as a Family Court Judge, my last Martindale-Hubbell rating was "BV."

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.

Yes. 1998-Present, Family Court Judge, First Judicial Circuit, Seat 3. Elected by the General Assembly. Statewide jurisdiction s provided by the South Carolina Code of Laws. The jurisdiction of the Family Court includes issues of adoption, name change, juvenile matters, divorce, equitable

distribution, alimony/spousal support, custody, visitation, child support, abuse and neglect matters.

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.

I believe that all orders issued are significant, especially when you consider the impact a Family Court Order has on the parties involved. Considering the significant of all orders issued, I would respectfully submit the following orders for consideration and will be glad to provide copies of said orders if desired:

- (a) Ronald Serowski v. Barbara Serowski, Opinion Number 4482, Filed January 12, 2009, South Carolina Court of Appeals. I prepared the Final Order, dated September 20, 2006, Ronald B. Serowski, Plaintiff, v. Barbara L. Serowski, Defendant, Case Number 03-DR-07-924, which was affirmed by the South Carolina Court of Appeals. A copy of the Serowski Final Order and SC Court of Appeals Order affirming my Final Order is attached hereto;
  - (b) Christa Nicole Clark, Plaintiff, v. Cory A. Smithers, Defendant, Final Order dated August 30, 2008. I prepared this Final Order;
  - (c) James Ronald Corn, Plaintiff, v. Sandy B. Edwards, Defendant, Case Number 05-DR-18-250, Final Order, dated February 29, 2008. I prepared this Final Order;
  - (d) Deborah Perez, Plaintiff, v. Joel Perez-Nunez, Defendant, Case Number 02-DR-18-1403, Final Order dated October 25, 2005. I prepared this Final Order;
  - (e) South Carolina Department of Social Services, Plaintiff, v. Charlese Brown, et al, Defendants, Case Number 08-DR-38-1135, Order dated February 10, 2009.
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?

The only positions that I have held that may qualify as a public office are the following:

- (a) President, Dorchester County Bar Association, 1994-96. Elected by the Dorchester County Bar Association;
  - (b) Board Member, Dorchester County Public Defender's Corporation, 1994-96. Appointed;
  - (c) Panel Member, First Judicial Circuit for the Resolution of Fee Disputes, Board of the South Carolina Bar Association, 1992-98. Appointed.
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. None.

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?

Yes.

Prior to graduation from law school and while attending college, my employment included the following positions:

(a) Law Clerk, Legal Department, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company, 1986–85;

(b) Courier/Runner, Boyd, Knowlton, Tate & Finlay Law Firm, 1984-85;

(c) Fitness Instructor, Spa Lady Fitness Center, 1981-84.

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.

As a previous employee of the law firm of Goodstein & Goodstein and as a brief employee of Rosen, Goodstein & Hagood, I recused myself from all cases involving the firm of Rosen, Goodstein & Hagood and any of the attorneys employed by the law firm for approximately three (3) years. The firm of Rosen, Goodstein & Hagood has not been dissolved and two (2) new firms have emerged. Since I was a long term employee of Goodstein & Goodstein, I have made it a practice to recuse myself if any objection is made.

Likewise, I have disclosed my employment of approximately two (2) weeks with the firm of Rosen, Goodstein & Hagood for any cases involving the partners of said firm. I have only presided in a limited number of cases involving attorneys of these firms after full disclosure of my previous employment history and if no objection was presented.

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. 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? No.  
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. However, the requested letters of recommendation may be sent directly to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.
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) SC Bar Association;
  - (b) South Carolina Conference of Family Court Judges.
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.

I am a member of the South Carolina Conference of Family Court Judges and the South Carolina Bar Association. I have also attended Bethany United Methodist Church although I may still be considered a member of Mt. Hebron United Methodist Church.

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.

It has been a great honor to serve the State of South Carolina as a Family Court Judge. I have enjoyed serving as a Family Court Judge.

49. References:

- (a) Mr. Harvey Hines  
Vice President  
Wachovia Bank/Wells Fargo  
1730 Maybank Highway  
Charleston, South Carolina 29412  
Office: (843) 762-6070

A copy of Mr. Hines's letter of recommendation is attached hereto. The original letter has been forwarded directly to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.

- (b) Marion R. Simmons, III, P.E.  
President, Simmons Irrigation Supply, Inc.  
526 Sidney Road  
Post Office Box 10  
Walterboro, South Carolina 29488  
Office: (843) 538-5566

A copy of Mr. Simmons's letter of recommendation is attached hereto. The original letter has been forwarded directly to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.

- (c) Greg O. Black, P.E.  
Post Office Box 22036  
Bakersfield, CA 93311  
Office (661) 664-4860  
Cell: (661) 330-2361

A copy of Mr. Black's letter of recommendation is attached hereto. The original letter has been forwarded directly to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.

- (d) Mrs. Robbin C. Goforth  
116 Rosemont Drive

Greenwood, SC 29646

Home: (661) 223-5529

A copy of Mrs. Goforth's letter of recommendation is attached hereto. The original letter has been forwarded directly to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.

- (e) Mrs. Marilyn C. Welch  
105 Brandywine Drive  
Summerville, SC 29483  
Home: (843) 821-1212

A copy of Mrs. Welch's letter of recommendation is attached hereto. The original letter has been forwarded directly to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.

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: Nancy Chapman McLin

Date: 8/11/09



TO: Andy Fiffick, Esquire  
FROM: Nancy Chapman McLin  
RE: Additional Information  
DATE: October 22, 2009

As to judicial temperament, general demeanor and courtesy, I am always mindful of our judicial oath which requires that in the discharge of my duties, I treat all persons who enter the courtroom with civility, fairness and respect. I listen courteously, sit impartially, act promptly and rule after careful and considerate deliberation.

Additionally, as a family court judge, I am patient and courteous to all attorneys, litigants, witnesses, clerks, deputies and other court personnel. I also require similar conduct of lawyers, staff, court officials and such persons subject to the court's discretion and control. See SC Code of Judicial Conduct, Cannon 3(B)(4).

I take great pride in maintaining a professional temperament and demeanor at all times. Sometimes the duties of a family court judge may be challenging; however, being courteous to all persons entering the courtroom is the clearly the easiest part of our job.

Regarding the survey results, I will admit that I was disappointed that anyone would submit a less than excellent response in any area. These surveys are anonymous and could reflect some upset over a less than favorable ruling. I also require attorneys and other professionals, such as Guardian ad Litem, to follow the applicable rules and statutory obligations. On occasions, I have admonished an attorney, Guardian ad Litem or agency, such as Department of Social Services, for not complying with statutory obligations. Consequently, such admonishment may have been taken personally and may have resulted in a survey response.

I am confident that a review of my record will confirm that I am courteous to all persons and that I maintain a professional temperament and demeanor at all times.

**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION**  
**Sworn Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings**

**Family Court**  
**(Incumbent)**

Full Name: Nancy Chapman McLin  
Business Address: 212 Deming Way, Suite 5  
Summerville, SC 29483  
Business Telephone: (843) 832-0387

1. Why do you want to serve another term as a Family Court Judge?  
I love this job! I have had the honor of serving as a Family Court Judge since June 1, 1998. This position has been challenging and rewarding. The Family Court cases are interesting and each case is unique. There is never a dull day in Family Court. Although the position of Family Court Judge can be stressful, it is also very fulfilling. The most rewarding aspect of the position of Family Court Judge is the service it provides to the children of the State of South Carolina.
2. Do you plan to serve your full term if re-elected? Yes.
3. Do you have any plans to return to private practice one day?  
Not at this time.
4. Have you met the statutory requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice? Yes.
5. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?  
I strictly follow the Code of Judicial Conduct and all rules/statutes regarding *ex parte* communications. Improper *ex parte* communications are strictly prohibited. Specifically, Canon 3(B)(7) provides that "[a] judge shall not initiate, permit, or consider *ex parte* communications, or consider other communications made to the judge outside the [presence of the parties concerning a pending or impending proceeding except that:  
(a) Where circumstances require, *ex parte* communication for scheduling, administrative purposes or emergencies that do not deal with substantive matters or issues on the merits are authorized; provided:  
(i) The judge reasonable believes that not party will gain a procedural or tactical advantage or as a result of the *ex parte* communication , and  
(ii) The judge makes provision promptly to notify all other parties of the substance of the *ex parte* communication and allows an opportunity to respond.

(b) A judge may obtain the advice of a disinterested expert on a the law applicable to a proceeding before the judge if the judge gives notice to the parties of the person consulted and the substance of the advice, and affords the parties reasonable opportunity to respond.

(c) A judge may consult with court personnel whose function is to aid the judge in carrying out the judge's adjudicative responsibilities or with other judges.

(d) A judge may with the consent of the parties, confer separately with the parties and their lawyers in an effort to mediate or settle matters pending before the judge.

(e) A judge may initiate or consider any ex parte communication when expressly authorized by law to do so."

I am extremely careful to avoid all inappropriate ex parte communications. My Judicial Assistant opens and screens all mail received in my office. If an ex parte communication is received, my Assistant returns to communication with a form cover letter developed with the assistance of Court Administration, explaining the Rules governing ex parte communication and explaining that the Judge cannot and will not consider ex parte communication. Additionally, the courtroom deputies are well aware that I will not allow ex parte communication and they insure that all parties enter the courtroom at the same time so as to avoid the opportunity for any ex parte communication.

Statutory provisions and South Carolina Rules of Procedure do allow for the application of ex parte relief under extreme circumstances, such as an application by the Department of Social Services for emergency protective custody of a child in danger of abuse or neglect. I am also very careful to make sure that any application strictly complies with the rules and statutes. In the event that such relief is appropriate, an emergency hearing is always promptly scheduled to allow all parties a full opportunity to be fully heard.

6. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law partners are to appear before you?

The partners of the law firm Goodstein & Goodstein. where I was employed prior to my judicial position, do not appear in Family Court. As to any of the former partners of the firm that employed me for approximately 2 weeks prior to my service on the bench, I have always made full disclosure of my prior employment, and I have recused myself from such cases if any objection was raised. Since the prior law firms have been dissolved and the partners/lawyers do not appear very often in the First Judicial Circuit, this issues as not occurred very often.

As to lawyer-legislators, I have had limited opportunities for lawyer-legislators to appear before me. However, all lawyers have to follow the same rules governing ethics. Any lawyer legislators appearing before me have been professional, courteous and have fully followed all rules of ethics.

Regarding recusal, I voluntarily recuse myself or will grant a motion for recusal if there is any possibility of the appearance of impropriety or conflict. I believe that it is important for all litigants to feel that they have received a fair and impartial trial. This issue does not come up frequently.

7. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion?

As a general rule, I recuse myself from anything that has even the slightest appearance of impropriety. I would give great deference and weight to anyone's motion for recusal. I would not allow the system to be abused. However, in most cases, I would probably grant a motion for recusal.

Canon 2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct provides that "[a] judge shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all of the judge's activities." Furthermore, a judge "shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary." Canon 2(A) Code of Judicial Conduct. I believe that it is important for all litigants to feel that they have received a fair and impartial trial. Litigants should feel confident that their case is being decided by a Judge who is impartial and is without any bias. If there is any potential disclosure that may support bias, the litigant would probably feel that any unfavorable ruling was due to such a bias even if the ruling was well supported by the evidence.

8. How would you handle the appearance of impropriety because of the financial or social involvement of your spouse or a close relative?

As a general rule, I recuse myself from anything that has even the slightest appearance of impropriety, including but not limited to financial and/or social involvement of my spouse or any relatives. I always disclose anything that may be interpreted as the appearance of impropriety, including but not limited to any financial or social involvement of my spouse and/or family members. "A judge shall not allow family, social, political or other relationships to influence the judge's judicial conduct or judgment." Canon 2(B) Code of Judicial Conduct. I perform my judicial duties impartially and diligently. See Canon 3 Code of Judicial Conduct. "A judge shall disqualify himself or herself in a proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned...." Canon 3(E)(1).

9. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?

I avoid any gifts and social hospitality from litigants, attorneys and/or parties who may appear in Family Court. I do not accept food, meals, beverages, lodging, transportation, entertainment, social hospitality or any other thing of value from attorneys or from individuals appearing in Family Court. I do accept invitation and/or ordinary social hospitality from the bar association when such functions are open to all bar members, the public and all judges. See Canon 4.

10. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct of a lawyer or of a fellow judge?

I would strictly follow the Rules of Judicial Conduct and Rules of Attorney Conduct, and I would make the required report to the Commission on Lawyer/Judicial Conduct if I became aware of misconduct. Canon 3 provides that "[a] Judge shall perform the duties of the Judicial Office impartially and diligently. More specifically, Canon 3(D) requires that "[a] Judge who receives information indicating a substantial likelihood that another judge has committed a violation of this Code [of Judicial Conduct] should take appropriate action. A judge having knowledge that another judge has committed a violation of this Code that raises a substantial question as to the other judge's fitness for office shall inform the appropriate authority."

11. Are you affiliated with any political parties, boards or commissions that, if you were re-elected, would need to be re-evaluated? No.

12. Do you have any business activities that you would envision remaining involved with if reelected to the bench? No.

13. Since family court judges do not have law clerks, how do you handle the drafting of orders?

I draft many of the short orders required, such as Orders of Continuance, Pretrial Orders, and Orders of Dismissal. I would prefer to draft all my orders; however, due to the demanding dockets each week, the high volume of cases heard weekly, high volume orders to be reviewed and the limited chambers time, the attorneys assist the preparation of orders. I always require that the attorneys circulate the proposed order prior to submission to the Court, to give all parties an opportunity to make necessary revisions and corrections. Additionally, my assistant ensures that the proposed orders have been sent to all parties prior to review by the Court. If a proposed order is incorrect, deficient or untimely submitted, I will prepare the order. For the first seven months of 2009, I have processed over 1,600 orders, not including the hundreds of orders reviewed and executed in the courtroom or clerk's office. Any order submitted for consideration must be forwarded to the opposing counsel/party prior to

- consideration by the Court. If the order does not conform to the hearing or is inadequate in any way, I will revise the order or redraft the order.
14. What methods do you use to ensure that you and your staff meet deadlines?
- My assistant and I each keep calendars, lists and notebooks to insure that all deadlines are met. We are very careful to meet deadlines. For keeping up with the timely execution of written orders, we keep the dockets, notes and correspondence in notebooks which are reviewed daily. I maintain notebooks with dockets and notes from all hearings. Once an order is executed, the docket is marked accordingly and the date signed is indicated. The executed order then goes to my judicial assistant who also maintains docket notebooks. My assistant also marks her docket once order is signed before sending executed order to the Clerk's Office for filing. My assistant sends regular "reminder memos" and emails to the attorneys required to submit orders to ensure that orders are timely executed. We prepare a monthly report to Court Administration regarding any orders that are not signed within 30 days of the hearing date. Additionally, my assistant and I maintain calendars with any other deadlines, and we meet regularly regarding time sensitive matters.
15. What specific actions or steps do you take to ensure that the guidelines of the Guardian ad Litem statutes are followed during the pendency of a case?
- I strictly require all Guardian ad Litem to follow the applicable statutes. In private cases, compliance with statutory provisions is discussed during pretrial hearing and the pretrial orders address deadlines, including but not limited to issues such as the filing of reports, exchange of custodial/psychological evaluations, home visits or inspections, interviewing witnesses. Additionally, in DSS [abuse and neglect] actions, the Guardian ad Litem report is reviewed and the Guardian ad Litem is questioned by the Court. If the Guardian ad Litem has not complied with the statutory duties and responsibilities, I will execute an Order requiring compliance and subjecting the Guardian ad Litem to sanction for noncompliance.
16. What is your philosophy on "judicial activism," and what effect should judges have in setting or promoting public policy?
- Judges must follow the law at all times.
17. Canon 4 allows a judge to engage in activities to improve the law, legal system, and administration of justice. What activities do you plan to undertake to further this improvement of the legal system?
- I have taught at several continuing legal education seminars. Additionally, I have met with court personnel and security personnel to

address questions and to assist in their education regarding the legal system and the rules of judicial/lawyer conduct.

Since being elected as a Family Court Judge for the First Judicial Circuit, I have served as the Chief Administrative Judge for many different years. As Chief Administrative Judge, I worked hard to improve the management of the court dockets. As a result, the delays for requested trial and hearings were significantly reduced. I prepared many forms which have expedited the entry of Court Orders and improved the operation of the Family Court.

18. Do you feel that the pressure of serving as a judge strains personal relationships (i.e. spouse, children, friends, or relatives)? How do you address this? As a Family Court Judge, I have had to limit my personal relationships with the attorneys and to avoid political involvement in consideration of the Code of Judicial Conduct. Otherwise, I do not feel that serving as a judge has strained my personal relationships with my spouse, child, friends or relatives.
19. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality?  
No.
20. Would you hear a case where you or a member of your family held a *de minimis* financial interest in a party involved? No.
21. Do you belong to any organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, or gender? No. Absolutely not.
22. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses? Yes. I routinely exceeded the minimum JCLE hours required each year since being on the bench.
23. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge?  
A Family Court Judge must be fair, courteous, impartial, polite, patient and professional at all times.
24. Do the rules that you expressed in your previous answer apply only while you are on the bench or in chambers, or do these rules apply seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day?  
These rules previously discussed apply at all times. Twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, and 365 days a year.
25. Do you feel that it is ever appropriate to be angry with a member of the public, especially with a criminal defendant? Is anger ever appropriate in dealing with attorneys or a pro se litigant?  
No. Anger by a Judge is never appropriate in the courtroom. Judges should always be patient, courteous and respectful.
26. How much money have you spent on your campaign? If it is over \$100, has that amount been reported to the House and Senate Ethics Committees? None.

27. While campaigning for this office, have you used judicial letterhead or the services of your staff for your campaign?  
No. My judicial assistant did open the Judicial Merit Selection package delivered to my office.
28. Have you sought or received the pledge of any legislator prior to this date? No.
29. Have you sought or been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? No.
30. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No.
31. Have you contacted any members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission? No.
32. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges for 48 hours after the draft report has been submitted? Yes.

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

s/ Nancy Chapman McLin

Sworn to before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.

Notary Public for South Carolina

My commission expires: 03-02-2010