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

Retired Judge

Full Name: Robert N. Jenkins, Sr.

Business Address: 404 Vardry Street, Greenville, SC 29601

Business Telephone: 864-905-7179

1. Have you met the Constitutional or statutory requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice?

2. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses?

Yes.

- 3. Do you have any plans to return to private practice one day?

 No, no present plans to engage in private practice in future.
- 4. Are you engaged in any legal activities other than your service as a retired judge, such as acting as an arbitrator or mediator?

Plan to do private or public mediation.

- 5. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality?

 No.
- 6. Do you belong to any organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, or gender?

No.

7. Have you engaged in any partisan political activity since your retirement?

No.

- 8. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge? Be reserved in speech and action.
- 9. In your position as a retired judge, what methods do you employ to ensure that deadlines for the timely issuance of orders are met?

 Use suspense calendar as when active.

10. 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?

No.

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

The misconduct must be reported to the proper Supreme Court entity for review and accountability.

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

Evaluate on case by case basis for real or perceived conflict or potential conflict. Make disclosure to the lawyers/litigants.

13. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?

This is not allowed. Ex-parte is the exception and not the rule. Any ex-parte (if ever, must be an extreme emergency with no other options) and must be disclosed on the record, and recusal may be necessary.

- 14. 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?
 - I would evaluate on a case by case basis. I would give reasonable deference to the party requesting the recusal.
- 15. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?

Don't accept gifts, except from close family.

16. In order that we might advise court administration on steps that need to be taken, are there any limitations on your sight, hearing, or mobility that should be addressed by the court administrator?

None.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ARE

s/ Robert Jenkins

Sworn to before me this 4 day of August , 2014.

TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Deborah R. Fisher (Print name) Notary Public for S.C.

My Commission Expires: April 2, 2024