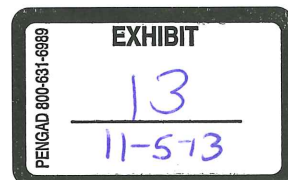


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

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

1. NAME: The Honorable Michael Shea Holt
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Rm. 402, Darlington County Courthouse
#1 Public Square
Darlington, SC 29532
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 843-398-4334
2. Date of Birth: 1970
Place of Birth: Florence, SC
3. Are you a citizen of SC? Yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes
5. Family Status: Married on April 19, 1997, to Sherry Burton Holt.
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) USC – 1988-92 BA in History (Minor in SC Studies);
(b) USC School of Law – 1993-96 JD.
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.
Licensed only in SC, admitted 1996
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) Kappa Alpha Order, 1989-92;
(b) Student Alumni Association, 1991-92.
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</u>
(a) SCAJ Annual Convention	8/1 – 8/4/2013;
(b) Family Court Judges' Conference	4/17 – 4/19/2013;
(c) SC Bar – Family Law Section	1/25/2013;
(d) SC Bar – 2012 Family Law Updates	12/7/2012;
(e) SCAJ Annual Convention	8/3/2012;
(f) Annual Judicial Conference	8/12 – 8/14/2012;
(g) National Judicial College – Family Court	4/29 – 5/10/2012;
(h) Family Court Judges' Conference	4/18 – 4/20/2012;
(i) SC Bar – Family Law Section	1/20/2012;
(j) SC Bar – 2011 Family Law Updates	12/2/2011;



- (k) Annual Judicial Conference 8/17 – 8/19/2011;
- (l) Family Court Judges’ Conf./Meeting 6/1/2011;
- (m) SC Bar – Family Law Section 1/21/2011;
- (n) SC Bar – 2010 Family Law Updates 12/3/2010;
- (o) Mini Summit on Justice for Children 12/2/2010;
- (p) Annual Judicial Conference 8/18 – 8/20/2010;
- (q) SCAJ Annual Convention 8/5/2010;
- (r) Family Court Judges’ Conference 4/22 – 4/24/2010;
- (s) SC Bar – Family Law Updates 1/22/2010;
- (t) SC Bar – 2009 Family Law Updates 12/4/2009;
- (u) Annual Judicial Conference 8/19 – 8/21/2009;
- (v) School for New FC Judges 6/3/2009;
- (w) Real Property Foreclosure (NBI) 1/2/2009;
- (x) Plaintiff’s Personal Injury (NBI) 12/9/2009;
- (y) Social Security Disability (SC Bar) 10/24/2008;
- (z) Handling Soc. Sec. Disability Cases (NBI) 6/16/2008.

11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? No

12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. None

13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission.

(a) Admitted to practice before SC State Courts in 1996;

(b) Admitted to practice before Federal District Court and Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in 2000.

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) Saleeby & Cox Law Firm, Hartsville, SC – 1996-2005 - General Practice;

(b) Wilmeth Law Firm, Hartsville, SC – July 2005-February 2006 – General Practice;

(c) Holt Law Firm, Hartsville, SC – Sole Practitioner, 2006-2009 – General Practice.

15. What is your rating, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who’s Who Legal, Super Lawyers, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

I know of no rating.

Retired judges/justices and judges/justices applying for reelection to their current position may omit Questions 16-21.

22. Have you ever held judicial office?

SC Family Court, Fourth Judicial Circuit, Seat 3, 2009-2013

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) DJJ vs. John Henry Bridges: This case involved a juvenile who was charged with murdering an elderly lady. The matter before the Court was a “waiver” hearing

and it was the first one I had handled on the bench. I ultimately determined the juvenile should be waived up to General Sessions after a contested hearing.

- (b) Shirley Johnson vs. Angela Lampley: This case was a custody battle between maternal grandparents who lived out of state and a relative in SC. The biological mother was deceased and the biological father was in prison. I awarded custody to the relative in SC. This matter was appealed but the Court affirmed the trial court's ruling.
 - (c) Saurabh Jain vs. Anima Dixit: This case involved a family from India and the only issue tried before the Court was custody. The father had come to the United States to practice medicine and left his wife and child in India. The mother came to the United States to visit and the father brought an action for custody. I awarded custody to mother after a lengthy trial.
 - (d) Mary Diane R. Corbett vs. Christopher A. Corbett: This case was an equitable division case wherein the wife sought to exclude the husband from significant assets from the marriage. I went through the factors for equitable division and awarded husband half the marital estate.
 - (e) DSS vs. Tina Roberts, Travis Hayes, Richard Herring, Gene Lashley, Barbara Roberts, Johnny and Cammie Corbett and Catherine Hayes: This was a DSS Abuse and Neglect case wherein the department had asked the Court to remove the children from the parents due to domestic violence among other things. The parents did not work the treatment plan and the Department chose to move before the Court to have the children placed with the paternal grandmother who had not been involved in the children's lives. The Court gave custody to the parties who had the interim custody of the children. This case was significant due to the number of parties involved, it was a lengthy trial and that the children were placed with non-relatives who the Court felt offered the best home to the minor children.
24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. 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?
Elected Mayor of City of Hartsville, SC, 2005-09.
I filed all required reports; however, there were late reports which resulted in fines, which were promptly paid.
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?
I lost a Senate primary race in 2004.
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? No
36. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? No
37. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? Not Applicable
38. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.?

I have a Facebook account, which preceded my 2009 election to the Bench. I am not active on Facebook and limit who has access to my Facebook information. I am also on Twitter, but use this for information and not for social connections. I use these social networks on a limited basis, and I am very guarded about creating any perceptions of conflict or impropriety. I never post any comments regarding legal issues.

39. 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
40. 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
41. 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." None
42. 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." None
43. 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
44. 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
45. 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
46. 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
47. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No
48. 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
49. 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) Darlington County Bar Association.
50. 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) USC Gamecock Club;
 - (b) Kiwanis Club, Hartsville, SC – Past President (no longer member);
 - (c) Hartsville Masonic Lodge (no longer active member);
 - (d) First Presbyterian Church, Hartsville, SC – Past Elder;
 - (e) Darlington Historical Society;
 - (f) St. David’s Historical Society.
51. 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 am proud of my service since I was honored by the Legislature in 2009. I have a strong work ethic and believe I am fair and empathetic to those who appear before me.
52. References:
- (a) Banker – Gene Norwood
Carolina Bank & Trust
843-332-1351
525 S. Fifth Street
Hartsville, SC 29550
 - (b) Mayor Mel Pennington
843-332-6531
306 W. Home Avenue
Hartsville, SC 29550
 - (c) Bryan P. Stirling
803-917-5442
2127 Kiawah Avenue
Columbia, SC 29205
 - (d) Major Bennett Gore, U. S. Army
843-861-8040
1310 Brennen Road
Columbia, SC 29205

(e) Walt Wilkins
864-242-5731
307 McDaniel Avenue
Greenville, SC 29601

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

Signature: Michael S. Holt
Date: August 6, 2013