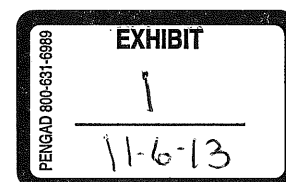


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR RETIRED JUDGES/JUSTICES**

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- NAME: The Honorable Thomas Leslie Hughston, Jr.
BUSINESS ADDRESS: 100 Broad Street, Suite 368
Charleston, SC 29401
BUSINESS TELEPHONE: 843-958-5100
2. Date and Place of Birth: 1943, Spartanburg, 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 May 30, 1993, to Mary Anne McLean Hughston. Divorced on November 30, 1990, from Jeanne G. Hughston, Family Court, Fifth Judicial Circuit, One year separation. Three children.
6. Briefly describe your continuing legal or judicial education since your last screening. Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.
Attended all mandatory JCLE programs and additional programs that were of interest to me. I usually carry forward 30 hours each year over required hours of JCLE.
7. Have you practiced law or served as a mediator or arbitrator since your retirement from the judiciary?
Since the last screening, yes, but very seldom.
(a) One mediation in October, 2009, a medical malpractice mediation;
(b) Two mediations in April and September 2010;
(c) One mediation in February, 2011 and one in May 2012.
The total compensation for these is approximately \$350.00.
8. List your positions of employment on and/or appointment to the bench chronologically. You are not required to list dates of employment or appointment prior to your last screening.
Continue to serve as Retired But Active Circuit Judge three weeks each month by assignment of Chief Justice Toal.
9. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?
No.
10. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
(a) Identify all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings.
See attachment.
(b) Identify each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.
Note and Mortgage on home at 9 Wentworth Street, Charleston, SC, now held by SunTrust Mortgage in amount of approximately \$160,000.
11. Since your last screening, have you 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.

12. Since your last screening, have you, to your knowledge, been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.
13. Since your last screening, has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Since your last screening, have you defaulted on a student loan? Since your last screening, have you filed for bankruptcy? No.
14. Since your last screening, have you been sued, either personally or professionally? No.
15. Since your last screening, have you, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, in SC or any other jurisdiction, been sanctioned for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or found to have committed such misconduct? No.
16. Since your last screening, have you been criticized, whether informally or in a matter taken to a disciplinary authority, for the manner in which you treated litigants or attorneys before you on the bench? No.
17. Describe your personal policy for the acceptance of food, meals, beverages, lodging, transportation, entertainment, social hospitality, or other things of value from an attorney, a group of attorneys, or from other individuals.

I attend the meetings of SC Association of Justice and SC Defense Trial Attorneys Association approved by Chief Justice. I do not accept the items mentioned from attorneys or others.

18. Have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court?
No.
19. Provide any other information which 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.
20. For the last fully completed calendar year, itemize the income, expenses, fees, payments, or additional benefits exceeding \$500, in the aggregate, received by you or a member of your immediate family from SC state and local entities. List the type, source, and amount or value of the benefit. Be sure to list any expense reimbursement you received separately from your income.

I have received per diem and reimbursement for mileage in connection with out of Charleston Court terms to which I was assigned. Unsure of the amount.

21. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
- (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a SC state or local public agency; None.
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200; or
None.
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in SC. None.
- List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:
- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest; None.
 - (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and None.
 - (c) SC state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such

property. None.

22. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a SC state or local public agency. None.

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

Signature: T. L. Hughston, Jr.

Date: July 22, 2013

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

Retired Judge

Full Name: Thomas Leslie Hughston, Jr.
Business Address: 100 Broad Street, Suite 368,
Charleston, SC 29401
Business Telephone: 843-958-5100

1. Have you met the Constitutional or statutory requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice? Yes.
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.
4. Are you engaged in any legal activities other than your service as a retired judge, such as acting as an arbitrator or mediator? Yes.
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?
To be attentive, courteous, and impartial.
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?
I keep a list of all cases in which I need to do Orders and check with the Assistant Clerk of Court working with me to make sure I have not overlooked something. Also, I have an excellent reminder system—I keep every case on my desk where I see it every day until I finish it. I try to get every Order finished within 30 days.
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?
Report it to appropriate agency.
12. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law clerks are to appear before you?
If I felt I could not be impartial, I would recuse myself. I disclose any relationship, past or present.

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

It should not happen, but on occasion it happens in order to get cases scheduled, notices given, administrative matters, etc.

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?

Great deference. Most probably would grant it.

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

Do not accept gifts or social hospitality that would give any appearance of impropriety.

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? No.

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

s/Thomas Leslie Hughston, Jr.

Sworn to before me this 7 day of 22, 2013.

Sandy Rassing

Notary Public for S.C.

My Commission Expires: 9/22/2014