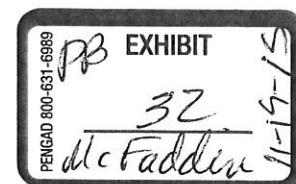


JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE



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

1. Name: The Honorable George Marion McFaddin, Jr.
Name that you are known by if different from above: No other name used.
Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? Family Court since July 8, 2002
Business Address: 215 North Harvin Street,
Sumter, SC 29151
Telephone Number: (office): 803 495 2025
2. Date of Birth: 1954
Place of Birth: Sumter, 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 August 27, 1988 to Cindy Johnston McFaddin. Married but separated since August 2012. No court action has been filed.
Divorced in March 1987, Sumter County Family Court, on the ground of separation of more than one year. George McFaddin was moving party.
Two children.
6. Have you served in the military? I have, to my regret, no military service history.
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 SC, August 1973 to May 1978, BA cum laude;
 - (b) University of SC, August 1978 to December 1979, MPA;
 - (c) University of SC, August 1982 to May 1985, 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.
SC only.
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.
I worked lots of part-time jobs in college, graduate and law school. I had no time for college activities beyond attending classes and studying.
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.
I have attended all mandatory CLE classes and some non-mandatory classes or CLEs.

<u>Conference/CLE Name</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
(a) Family Law Section	1/2015;
(b) Family Court Judges Conference	4/2015;
(c) Family Law Section	1/2014;
(d) Family Court Judges Conference	4/2014;

- I was excused by the Chief Justice due to my father's surgery.
- (e) Annual Judicial Conference 8/2014;
 - (f) Lawyer and Judicial Discipline Conference 11/2014;
 - (g) Family Court Bench Bar 12/2014;
 - (h) Family Law Section 1/2013;
 - (i) Family Court Judges Conference 4/2013;
- I was excused by the Chief Justice due to my shoulder surgery done that week.
- (j) Annual Judicial Conference 8/2013;
 - (k) Lawyer and Judicial Discipline Conference 11/2013;
 - (l) Family Court Bench Bar 12/2013;
 - (m) Family Law Section 1/2012;
 - (n) Family Law Judges Conference 4/2012;
 - (o) Presenting the Family Law Case 4/2012;
 - (p) Annual Judicial Conference 8/2012;
- Oddly this one does not show on my CLE records but I have never missed this conference.
- (q) Lawyer and Judicial Discipline Conference 11/2012;
 - (r) Mandatory Family Court Judges 12/2012;
 - (s) Family Court Bench Bar, 12/2012;
 - (t) Family Law Section 1/2011;
- I did not attend and was excused to allow me to finish a trial of several days duration.
- (u) Family Court Judges Conference 6/2011;
 - (v) Annual Judicial Conference 8/2011;
 - (w) Lawyer and Judge Discipline Conference 11/2011;
 - (x) Family Court Bench Bar 12/2011;
 - (y) Family Law Section 1/2010;
 - (z) Family Court Judges Conference 4/2010;
 - (aa) Domestic Litigation 5/2010;
 - (bb) Annual Judicial Conference 8/2010;
 - (cc) Hot Tips Family Law 10/2010;
 - (dd) Lawyer and Judge Discipline Conference 10/2010;
 - (ee) Introduction to Court Annexed ADR 10/2010;
 - (ff) Mini-Summit on Justice for Children 12/2010;
 - (gg) Family Law Bench Bar 12/2010.
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?
In the early 1990s I taught torts, family law and trusts and estates at Central Carolina Technical College in the paralegal program. It was part-time work.
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
I have not published any books or articles.
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) I was admitted to practice in SC on 21 November 1985;
- (b) I was admitted to the US Federal District Court in 1993.
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) After law school in 1985 I worked as a law clerk to the Honorable Rodney A. Peebles until July 1986. My job included docket management, research, writing orders, office work to include answering the telephone, setting hearings, and anything else I was told to do;
- (b) I worked at the Bryan, Bahnmuller, King, Goldman and McElveen law firm in Sumter from July 1986 until June 1987. I was an associate and assisted with trial preparation, research, client intake, docket meetings and anything else I was told to do.
- (c) From June 1987 until May 1988 I worked as an associate with the Law Firm of John E. Miles. There I did the same as noted above in (b);
- (d) From May 1988 I was an associate at the firm of Atkinson and Davis. My duties were the same as noted above in (b) and (c);
- (e) From August 1990 until I became a full-time magistrate in 1988 I was a sole practitioner. I handled lots of family law cases. I served as the juvenile court public defender. For a short time I was a public defender in the court of general sessions. I had a small personal injury practice. I also served for two years as the county prosecutor in the magistrate court. After I left this practice to become a full-time magistrate I never practiced law again. In 2002 I began my family court judgeship.
16. 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 am not aware of any rating. I have not practiced law since July 1998.
23. Have you ever held judicial office? Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.
- (a) Magistrate, August 1998 to July 2002. General jurisdiction magistrate/summary court work to include civil, landlord and tenant, criminal and traffic cases;
- (b) Family Court, July 2002 to present. Cases include divorces with all related issues, adoptions, child support enforcement, abuse and neglect child protections cases, vulnerable adult actions and juvenile criminal cases.
24. If the answer to question 23 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.
In all of the following I issued long written rulings instead of rulings from the bench. The rulings were in memorandum form and the lawyers incorporated into the formal orders the rulings. The following were opinions from the appellate courts.
- (a) Ragsdale v. Ragsdale, an unpublished opinion issued under 2008-UP-291, Ct. App. in 2008. In this case the central issue was the determination of whether certain improvements to the real estate were personal or real property. I determined the property was real property due to the non-removable nature of the property. The ruling was affirmed;

- (b) Lewis v. Lewis, 392 SC 381, 709 SE2d 650 (2011). In this case the Court of Appeals reversed my ruling relating to the valuation of property, an antebellum house. The Supreme Court, on appeal from the Court of Appeals, reversed the Court of Appeals and reiterated that the Family Court judge has broad discretion when valuing property and that the Family Court gave proper weight and credibility to the valuation offered by an expert in the area of such property. This case is cited many times in Family Court opinions since 2011. (The case caption notes that Judge R. Wright Turbeville was involved. He was but only with regard to the temporary order, not my final ruling.);
- (c) Keefer v. Keefer, 394 SC 329, 716 SE2d 379 (Ct. App. 2011). In this case the issue revolved around the interpretation of the parties' written agreement as it related to post-marriage retirement-related benefits. I ruled that the agreement was unambiguous and that the agreement did not include the benefits. The Court of Appeals affirmed noting that agreements are to be given the plain meaning of the agreement;
- (d) Argabright v. Argabright, 398 SC 176, 727 SE2d 748 (2012). Here the central issue was whether the Family Court should allow the mother's boyfriend, a registered sex offender, to be in the presence of mother's teenaged daughter. Mother wanted the prior restraint lifted. I denied the request finding that mother, even as the child's parent, could not ignore the prior restraint. The Supreme Court agreed and affirmed;
- (e) Crossland v. Crossland, 408 SC 443, 759 SE2d 419 (2014). In this case I issued an order equally dividing the marital assets based upon the conduct of the husband, to a degree, along with the other property division factors. I also noted the years of contributions of the wife to the property. The Court of Appeals reversed most of my rulings but the Supreme Court reversed that court and reinstated my rulings.
25. 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.
I have not held any office other than a judgeship. In my prior three judicial elections if I had to file the forms I did. I am not aware of not doing so.
26. 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.
I have had no employment other than as a judge. I did serve as a volunteer firefighter until July 2003 but the compensation was a per-call flat payment used to defray personal costs such as gasoline, clothing, etc.
27. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?
No.
28. 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?
From the age of 12 I have worked. From the age of 12 through my college graduation in 1978 I had these part-time or seasonal jobs: farm laborer, golf course laborer, funeral home assistant, EMS worker, firefighter, janitor, part-time teacher for paralegals, retail store clerk, and car washer, and page at the State House. Upon college graduation I worked full-time the summer of 1978 as a firefighter. During graduate school I worked part-time at the State House as a page. After graduate school I worked for the SC Judicial Department in the

Court Administration division and the finance and personnel division. In the fall of 1982 I resumed work at the State House and worked as a assistant and later as chief page in the SC House of Representatives.

After law school I was a law clerk to the Honorable Rodney A. Peebles for one year before returning to Sumter, SC, to start my legal career.

29. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.
No.
30. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
31. 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. If, however, a conflict existed I would recuse myself from the matter.
32. 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.
33. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute?
No.
34. 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?
(a) Tax liens: There was a state tax lien filed against me in 1998 or 1999 as a result of underpayment of state income tax. As I stated when I ran for judicial office first in 2001 I was not aware of the lien but once I was made aware of the lien immediately paid the amount due to clear the lien. I was questioned about this by the commission in 2001.
(b) Student loan defaults: No defaults. I paid all of my loans ahead of time.
(c) Bankruptcy: I have never filed for bankruptcy.
35. 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?
As a judge I was sued in state court by a disgruntled litigant who was apparently a member of the Sovereign Citizens who denounce all government to include court jurisdiction. It was filed under case number 2006-CP-43-1754. He was angry because at his divorce hearing I divided the marital estate evenly. He felt this was unfair stating his wife was not entitled to that. The case was removed to US Federal Court where Judge Matthew Perry dismissed it. Attorney Mark W. Buyck, Jr., of Florence, SC represented me.
37. 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.
38. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy.

I have not been in private practice since 1998 when I was covered by a malpractice policy. I do not recall having a tail policy. I have never been sued or had a malpractice claim filed against me stemming from my law practice that ended in July 1998.

39. 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.? If so, how would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity?

I was active on Facebook from early 2010 until I deactivated in 2013. I never "friended" any lawyers or persons who might come before me in court. If that happened I did not remain on the case. I joined LinkedIn and rarely, if ever, view it or reply to any invitations.

40. 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)?

I have never been employed as a lobbyist.

41. 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?

I have not.

42. 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. Include the disposition, if any, of such charges or allegations.

I am not aware of any charges or allegations.

43. 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. Include the disposition, if any, of such charges or allegations.

I am not aware of any charges or allegations.

44. 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.

As of today I have paid only for gasoline to travel to Columbia to obtain my application. I will supplement this answer as needed.

45. 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.

46. 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, absolutely not.

47. 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.

48. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy?

No.

49. 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.

50. 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) Sumter County Bar member only 1986 to 1998;

(b) SC Bar member only since 1985.

No other organizations.

51. 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 have not been a member of any such organizations.

52. 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 came to this job in 2002 drenched in humility and I strive to remain in that same condition. I know where I came from in life. I am the product of a blue-collar family. I am not perfect. My life is riddled with errors and mistakes. I try to learn from my mistakes. I am thankful to have a good job and I try to earn it each day. I realize that my rulings, even the single rulings, will affect lives, sometimes forever. I often agonize over rulings, especially so when children are involved. I have been "down and out" financially and I have had serious health problems (back and shoulder surgeries). These episodes keep me grounded and, I hope, in touch with those who appear before me.

Also, twice a year since the start of 2008 I have been holding Adoption Days twice yearly. Doing so allows foster care children eligible for adoption to be adopted on an expedited basis. At the end of 2015 approximately 400 foster care children will have been adopted at these Adoption Day events. I hold these days on non-court or on my vacation days.

53. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five persons, including your banker, from whom references could be obtained.

(a) Mark Mossell,
Vice-President, First Citizens Bank,
683 Bultman Drive,
Sumter SC 29150
803 775 7710

(b) Charles L. Griffin, III,

640 Chickasaw,
Sumter, SC 29150
803 469 4117

- (c) Martha D. Greenway,
200 Serenity Circle,
Mayesville, SC 29104
803 495 2186
- (d) Walter S. Wilson, Jr.,
PO Box 548,
Sumter, SC 29151,
803 972 9060
- (e) Robert J. Lybrand,
70 W. Wesmark,
Sumter, SC 29150
803 773 7339

54. 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 South Carolina state or local public agency;
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200; or
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.
- 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;
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

None.

55. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina state or local public agency. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency.

None.

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: s/George Marion McFaddin, Jr.

Date: August 7, 2015