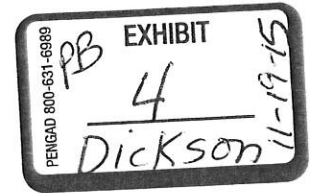


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**



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

1. Name: The Honorable Edgar Warren Dickson
Name that you are known by if different from above: Ed
Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? Yes, I am currently serving as
Circuit Judge in the First Judicial Circuit, Seat 1.
Business Address: 151 Docket Street,
Orangeburg, SC 29115
Telephone Number: (office): 803-535-2187
2. Date of Birth: 1950
Place of Birth Kingstree, 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 November 17, 1973 to Lessie Gayle Floyd Dickson. 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) University of SC, 1968 to 1972, BA, English;
(b) University of SC, School of Law, 1974 to 1977, 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, 1977
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) I worked my way through undergraduate school as a work study student at the South
Carolinian Library at the University of SC.
(b) Beginning my second semester of law school until graduation, I worked for
Georgaklis and Korn, a law firm in Columbia, SC
(c) I had job experience and responsibility but no leadership positions.
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.

<u>Conference/CLE Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
(a) Criminal Law Update-Part	01/22/10;
(b) Civil Law Update	01/22/10;
(c) Circuit Judges Conference	05/05/10;
(d) SCAJ Annual Convention	08/05/10;
(e) Annual Judicial Conference	08/18/10;

(f)	Solicitor's Conference-With Great Power Comes Great	09/26/10;
(g)	NJC General Jurisdiction	10/10/10;
(h)	SCDTAA Annual Meeting	11/11/10;
(i)	Criminal Law Section	01/21/11;
(j)	Civil Law Update	01/21/11;
(k)	Circuit Judges Meeting	05/04/11;
(l)	SCAJ Annual Convention	08/04/11;
(m)	Annual Judicial Conference	08/17/11;
(n)	SCDTAA Annual Meeting	11/03/11;
(o)	Civil Law Update	01/20/12;
(p)	Criminal Law Section-Part 2	01/20/12;
(q)	Circuit Judges Conference	05/02/12;
(r)	SCAJ Annual Convention	08/02/12;
(s)	Annual Judicial Conference	08/22/12;
(t)	SCDTAA Annual Meeting	11/08/12;
(u)	Civil Law Update	01/25/13;
(v)	Criminal Law Section-Part 2	01/25/13;
(w)	Ethics with the Judges	04/25/13;
(x)	Circuit Judges Meeting	05/01/13;
(y)	SCAJ Annual Convention	08/01/13;
(z)	Annual Judicial Conference	08/21/13;
(aa)	Civil Law Update	01/24/14;
(bb)	Criminal Law Section-Part 2	01/24/14;
(cc)	Circuit Judges Meeting	03/24/14;
(dd)	SCAJ Annual Convention	08/07/14;
(ee)	Annual Judicial Conference	08/20/14;
(ff)	Civil Law Update	01/23/15;
(gg)	Criminal Law Update-Part 2	01/23/15;
(hh)	Circuit Judges Conference	03/09/15.

11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? Yes

- (a) I have made a presentation to the Calhoun County High School teacher's meeting in 2011 on how young people are at risk for lives of crime, talked about how education can impact their lives and how important it is to take extra steps to keep the children in school.
- (b) I have made a presentation to the Kiwanis Club at one of their 2015 meetings about how Circuit Judges are elected, what their workload involves, and I reviewed the 2014 statistics for civil and criminal cases in Orangeburg County and circuit wide.
- (c) I participated in a panel at the 2009 Public Defender's Conference on "New faces on the bench".
- (d) I participated in a panel at the 2010 Solicitor's Fall Conference regarding "Top 10 Appellate Decisions from 2009-2010".
- (e) I participated in a panel speaking to the lawyers attending the 2012 Public Defender's Conference regarding difficulties that can take place when taking a deposition.

12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
I was a speaker at a CLE program and provided an outline and case law on recovery against the Second Injury Fund in the late 1980's. The outline was included in the CLE materials. I do not have a copy.
13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission.
(a) The SC Supreme Court, 1977;
(b) US Federal District Court, late 1970's.
Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice. N/A
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) 1977-1978: Georgaklis and Korn. This was mainly a real estate practice, handling loan closings and foreclosures in every county in this state and some domestic litigation;
(b) 1978-1982: Sole practitioner for a few months before creating a partnership of Clawson, Dickson and Wilson. We were a small general practice doing real estate, domestic and plaintiff's litigation;
(c) 1982-1985: Attorney General's Office. Worked in the child support section which involved litigation in Family Court. I averaged fifty hearings per week. Since HLA blood tests and DNA tests were not used when I began, paternity trials were commonplace;
(d) 1985-1987: The child support section was transferred to the Department of Social Services. I continued to try the same cases. Management duties were added and I was charged with coordinating child support collections for a number of assigned counties in the Midlands;
(e) 1987-1991: General Counsel for the Second Injury Fund. I defended the Fund against claims of insurance carriers for reimbursement. Later I also defended the Uninsured Employer's Fund from the claims of injured workers. The cases began at a hearing before a single commissioner and appeals continued from the Full Commission, to Circuit court, to Court of Appeals and finally to the Supreme Court;
(f) 1991-2006: Charles H. Williams, P.A. in Orangeburg. This firm specialized in plaintiff's litigation and criminal defense. However, practicing law in a small city required providing general legal services to our clients. I handled real estate closings, litigation and claims of injured workers before the Workers' Compensation Commission. Additionally, I tried cases in Family Court and Circuit Court. In General Sessions Court, I defended and assisted in criminal defense cases. In Common Pleas, I defended accident cases and assisted in plaintiff's cases;
(g) 2006: Attorney for the Chief State Information Officer. This involved contract preparation and negotiation in information technology and advising and participating in procurement hearings.
(h) 2006-2009: Attorney and Assistant Director for General Services Division of the Budget and Control Board. I advised staff on legal matters and participated and

monitored law suits involving General Services. I also managed all real estate owned or leased by the State of South Carolina, and appeared before the Joint Bond Review Committee and the Budget and Control Board;

- (i) 2009–present: Resident Circuit Court Judge for First Judicial Circuit. I preside over Common Pleas and General Sessions courts.
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. BV rating in Martindale-Hubbell.
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.
Yes. I am presently serving as a Circuit Judge, Seat 1 in the First Judicial Circuit, since being elected in 2009. The First Circuit includes Orangeburg, Calhoun and Dorchester Counties.
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.
- (a) State of SC v. Mario Shivers, Walter Lee Harris, Christian Coleman, Danny Ryant and Ralph Bernard Coleman. All five defendants were tried in one trial. A sixth defendant testified on behalf of the State. The defendants wanted their cases tried separately. Their motions to sever were each separately denied. The case took a week to try. All five were convicted of murder and all five appealed. All convictions were affirmed by the Court of Appeals in unpublished opinions: 2012-UP-646, 2012-UP-644, 2-12-UP-645, 2012-UP-647, and 2013-UP-001;
 - (b) Henderson v. Summerville Ford-Mercury. Defendant dealer sought to prevent filing of the confirmation of an arbitration award as a judgment in the county records by paying the award prior to confirmation. I decided that the plaintiff could file the arbitration award as a judgment but had to file the satisfaction as well. On appeal as a matter of first impression my decision was affirmed. Opinion No. 27313, Appellate Case No. 2012-207606. Henderson v. Summerville Ford-Mercury, Inc., 405 S.C. 440, 748 S.E.2d 221 (2013);
 - (c) Beason v. Lowden. This was an accident case. The plaintiff substantiated medical expenses and lost wages totaling approximately \$40,000. The jury had very loud and aggressive deliberations that could be heard outside the jury room. The foreperson indicated that she had not taken part in the initial verdict and refused to sign the verdict form. After further deliberations where loud voices continued to be heard, the jury returned with a unanimous verdict of \$17,000. Plaintiff moved for new trial nisi additur and the motion was granted in the amount of \$80,000. The Court of Appeals affirmed citing the compelling reasons provided by the trial court for granting additur. See unpublished opinion 2015-UP-131;
 - (d) State v. Shaquan Duley. In this case a mother killed her two children. Just as in the Susan Smith case, this was a case of intense national interest even having the defendant interviewed by Oprah. Trial preparation required consideration of multiple media requests and demands. Eventually the defendant pled guilty;
 - (e) State v. Combs. In this case the Eutawville Police Chief who was white killed an unarmed black man who refused to accept a warrant. This case was one of a number

of cases throughout the nation where white policemen had shot unarmed black men. This case also involved intense national interest. The case was tried in the spotlight for a week. After deliberating for most of a day, the jury at 2:30 a.m. was deadlocked and a hung jury was declared.

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.
No.
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.
None
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?
Yes
(a) 1972-73: English Grammar and Eighth Grade Math teacher at Williamsburg Academy in Kingstree, SC. Also coached boys varsity basketball.
(b) 1973-74: Reading teacher and Eighth Grade Boys Basketball coach at Hopkins Junior High School in Hopkins, SC, Richland School District One.
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.
(a) Montgomery Dickson, LLC. My brother and sisters own our family beach house at North Myrtle Beach under this LLC. I manage the actual upkeep of the house and my brother handles the money. The LLC also is the mortgagee for a house in Kingstree, SC;
(b) Evans Clan, LLC. My family owns a small house in Williamsburg County where we hold a family reunion every Thanksgiving. I have no duties other than contributing to the upkeep.
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.
The only potential conflict I would have is if prior clients from my former law practice appeared before me. In that case, I would have to be disqualified. If I had other potential conflicts of interest, I would advise the parties and their attorneys of the potential conflict and explain my interest. I would allow them to move for recusal if they felt it was necessary, or get them to sign a statement allowing me to hear the case if they did not believe recusal was necessary.
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?
I did receive a speeding ticket (violation of Town ordinance), ticket #44746, in the Town of Turbeville, SC in March of 2008. The fine was for \$128.

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?
A state tax lien for \$495.30 was filed on August 16, 1993, and satisfied on August 26, 1993.
Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? No.
Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No.
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?
Yes, professionally and personally.
- (a) Anthony-Donnell Glover, Secured Party/Credit (sic) from Charlotte, N.C. , filed a Conditional Acceptance for Value (CAFV)-Private Independent Administrative Process-Article 1 Redress of Grievance Under The Nineth (sic) Amendment Reservation For The Resolution And Equitable Settlement Under Necessity, In the Nature of Request for proof of Claim/Discovery. Notice to Agent is Notice to Principal, Notice to Principal is Notice to Agent, Case #K238655.
It named Judge Dickson-or current chief judge hereinafter as Respondent. My secretary picked up this document when she signed for Certified Mail for me on or about 7/18/13. She immediately reported it to me and we immediately reported it to Emory Smith with the Attorney General's Office (and sent him the 15-page document), and to Rosalyn Frierson with Court Administration. The Attorney General's Office did not find that it required any response or action on my part.
- (b) A car drove into my lane and sideswiped me. Nearly six years later in the mid-80's I was sued. I do not remember the name of the plaintiff. I advised my carrier not to pay a cent to settle the case. I never heard anything further and was never contacted again.
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.
N/A
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?
No. N/A.
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)?
No

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?
No
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.
None known
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.
None known
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.
None
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
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) American Bar Association;
(b) SC Bar Association;

- (c) Orangeburg County Bar Association-President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer offices were held in the 1990's.
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.
- (a) First Presbyterian Church, Orangeburg, SC. Presently and in the past I have been an Elder;
- (b) Orangeburg Presbyterian Church Society – serving as President;
- (c) Saint Andrews Society of Columbia, SC;
- (d) The Society of the High Hills of the Santee.

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 feel I have benefitted from life experiences that enable me to understand and learn from events and provide guidance to myself and others. During my thirty-one years practicing law, I had the opportunity to try and assist in trying all types of cases except death penalty, medical malpractice and class action law suits. My years as teacher and coach assisted me in preparing to try cases because I had to gain and control the attention of twelve to twenty-five people, maintain their interest and convince them of my position. Law School provided me with knowledge of the law. However, you learn to try cases by doing it. You also learn to win cases in court and not on appeal. This requires an emphasis on the dynamics of the interaction of the people who are involved: the judge, the lawyers, the parties, the witnesses and the jury. It is a fluid situation that requires attention at all times.

I have an understanding of the anger and fear of victims and their families, and the fear and worry of defendants who are charged with crimes. My first cousin's daughter was murdered and I defended murderers. My elder son was robbed at gunpoint and I defended robbers. My house was burglarized and I defended burglars.

As a Judge, my role has been to preside over an orderly court, advise jurors so that they understand and are comfortable with the process, encourage young lawyers and listen to the positions of the parties and their witnesses. I believe I maintain a good working relationship with the court personnel. I am considerate of the pressures on the practicing attorneys, the demands of their clients, and the affects of my decisions on all parties: plaintiff, the State, defendants and victims.

53. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five persons, including your banker, from whom references could be obtained.
- (a) Dwight W. Frierson,
1030 Moss Street,
Orangeburg, SC
(803) 539-1549 (cell)
- (b) Mark Trimmier,
791 Broughton Street,
Orangeburg, SC
(803) 536-1223 (work)
- (c) W.O. Brodie, III,
1120 Doyle Street,

Orangeburg, SC
(803) 536-6866 (work)

- (d) Edwin E. Evans,
5035 Furman Avenue,
Columbia, SC
(803) 777-1355 (work)
- (e) Dr. Olin Whitener,
First Presbyterian Church,
Orangeburg, SC
(540) 674-5934 (cell)

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.

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.

None

Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency.

N/A

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/Edgar Warren Dickson

Date: August 6, 2015