



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

**Retired Judge**

Full Name: James Edward Moore  
Business Address: 148 Amherst Drive, Greenwood, SC 29649  
Business Telephone: 864 -942-8559

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?  
N/A because of exemption.
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?  
No.
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?  
A judge must be patient and courteous to the attorneys and litigants; have a sufficient knowledge of the law and rules, and apply them fairly and equally; and should always conduct himself appropriately both on and off the bench.
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?  
My personal practice is to have the order issued within thirty days unless it is a complicated or novel issue which may require more time to research.
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?  
It is never appropriate to express anger with a member of the public or a criminal defendant or allow that anger to influence a decision. There is always, however, a time for firmness or sternness when dealing with attorneys or people in the courtroom but never should anger be displayed.
11. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct of a lawyer or fellow judge?

The Code of Judicial Conduct requires a judge to take appropriate action when he or she receives information that an attorney or another judge has committed an ethical violation. If a judge has knowledge that another judge or an attorney has committed a violation then it must be reported to the appropriate authority.

12. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law clerks are to appear before you?  
I would recuse in any matter in which my impartiality might reasonably be questioned. I would not automatically recuse when a lawyer-legislator or any other legislator appears unless there is some reason other than the fact one is a legislator. Likewise, I would not recuse after a former associate or law clerk appears after two years from the cessation of employment. I would always recuse in any case where I or any family member has an interest or in any case where I have participated as an attorney.
13. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?  
I consider any *ex parte* communication as prohibited except where such is specifically allowed such as in scheduling, administrative, or emergency matters.
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 certainly consider and give deference to any reasonable request for recusal. If it is a reasonable and understandable request, I would recuse.
15. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?  
While ordinary social hospitality is not prohibited, I personally do not accept gifts from any attorney or litigant. An exception would apply to conventions hosted by an association of attorneys where other judges are invited and all receive complimentary food or lodging.
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?  
My health is generally good with no specific limitations

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

s/James E. Moore

Sworn to before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

Trudy G. Sherard

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: 10/21/2024