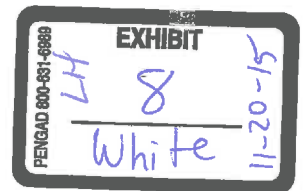


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**



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

1. Name: The Honorable Thomas H. White IV  
Name that you are known by if different from above: Thom  
Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? Family Court Judge  
Business Address: Union County Courthouse  
210 W. Main Street  
Union, SC 29379  
Telephone Number: (office): 864-429-1635
2. Date of Birth: 1957  
Place of Birth: Oconee Memorial Hospital, Seneca, 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 December 18, 1982 to Ann Brueckner White. Never divorced, two children.
6. Have you served in the military? N/A
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) Clemson University, August 1975-May 1979, BA in Political Science with High Honor;
  - (b) University of South Carolina School of Law, August 1980-May 1983, 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.  
Admitted to SC Bar November 16, 1983. Member in good standing without interruption since date of admission.
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) As an undergraduate at Clemson University, I primarily concentrated on my academic pursuits, though I did briefly participate as a walk-on athlete with both the football and baseball programs, without distinction. The walk-on experience was enjoyable on many levels; however, it mostly confirmed that a future in athletics was not in the cards and that my appropriate focus should be on academics. I was inducted into Phi Etta Sigma, the national academic honor society, in 1976 and Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society, in 1977;
  - (b) In law school, I focused on my studies and my law clerking experience with the Columbia firm of Rogers, McDonald, McKenzie, Fuller & Rubin.
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.  
Conference/CLE Name Date(s)

- |     |   |           |
|-----|---|-----------|
| (a) | Family Court Judges Conference                            | 4/16/15;  |
| (b) | Family Law Section (SC Bar Convention)                    | 1/23/15;  |
| (c) | 2014 Family Court Bench Bar                               | 12/5/14;  |
| (d) | 2014 SCAJ Annual Judicial Conference (Family Court CLE)   | 8/20/14;  |
| (e) | 2014 Annual Convention/SC Association for Justice         | 8/7/14;   |
| (f) | 2014 Orientation School for New Family Court Judges       | 6/18/14;  |
| (g) | Family Court Judges Conference                            | 4/23/14;  |
| (h) | 2013 Family Court Bench Bar                               | 12/6/13;  |
| (i) | Annual Reese I. Joye DUI Defense Seminar                  | 11/8/13;  |
| (j) | 2013 Hot Tips from the Coolest Domestic Law Practitioners | 9/27/13;  |
| (k) | Blues, BBQ CLE  | 7/12/13;  |
| (l) | Ethics & Mental Health Study                              | 1/31/13;  |
| (m) | DUI Defense From A to Z                                   | 11/9/12;  |
| (n) | Greenville County Bar Association Year End CLE            | 2/10/12;  |
| (o) | DUI Defense From A to Z                                   | 11/11/11; |
| (p) | Blues, BBQ & Bar CLE                                      | 7/8/11;   |
| (q) | Blues, BBQ & Bar CLE                                      | 7/9/10.   |
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?
- (a) I have served as a presenter on two separate occasions at continuing legal education seminars sponsored by the SC Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. My presentations covered the general topic of case investigation and preparation for rural lawyers in economically-challenged locations;
- (b) I have been a frequent guest speaker to public school classrooms in Union County, SC over the years on law-related topics and on law-related careers. In particular, I have participated as a regular presenter in the Opportunity Fair program at the middle school and high school levels in Union County, SC public schools. These presentations have been particularly focused on educating students regarding our legal system, the advantages of a legal education, and employment opportunities in the legal field.
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 scholarly articles; however, as president of the SC Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in 2002, I did author 3 President's Columns in "The Advocate", the original newsletter for the organization.
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) Admitted to practice before the State Courts of South Carolina in 1983;
- (b) Also admitted to practice before the Federal District Court in 1989.
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.
- I was in the private practice of law in Union, SC from the time of my admission to the South Carolina Bar in 1983 until February 24, 2014 when I began my duties as a Family Court

judge. Initially, I was hired in 1983 as an associate with the law office of William E. Whitney, Jr. I was an associate with this office from 1983 to 1985. In 1985, I became a partner and the firm name was changed to Whitney and White. This association remained intact from 1985 through 1989. In January, 1989, Pete G. Diamaduros joined the firm and the firm name was changed to Whitney, White and Diamaduros. This partnership remained intact from 1989 through August 1992. In August 1992, Sammy G. Diamaduros joined the firm and the firm name was changed to Whitney, White, Diamaduros & Diamaduros. In May 2000, Pete G. Diamaduros, Sammy G. Diamaduros and I established the firm of White, Diamaduros & Diamaduros. This partnership remained intact from May 2000 until February 21, 2014. Throughout my legal career, I maintained a general practice. My areas of practice have included domestic litigation, criminal defense, civil trial law, and a modicum of trust and estates.

I have served as Family Court Judge of the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1, from February 24, 2014 to the present.

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 have not sought a rating in Martindale-Hubbell or any such other rating service in over 25 years; however, the last I was cognizant of my rating, it was "BV-Distinguished".

23. Have you ever held judicial office?

During my years of private law practice, I was appointed as Special Referee on innumerable occasions. Though the vast majority of these appointments over the years have been in default mortgage foreclosure cases, I have been appointed on several occasions to cases involving boundary disputes, partition actions, actions to quiet title to real estate, and supplemental proceedings.

I have held my current judicial office as a Family Court Judge since February 24, 2014.

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) Davis vs. Gill, Case No. 2013-DR-44-448. (Child custody modification)  
No Appellate Record.

(b) Pagoota vs. Pagoota, Case No. 2013-DR-46-2122. (Child support modification) No Appellate Record.

(c) Wallace vs. Wallace, Case No. 2013-DR-23-5404. (Equitable distribution)  
No Appellate Record.

(d) Dinino vs. Duro, Case No. 2014-DR-46-241. (Child visitation modification)  
No Appellate Record.

(e) Any and all of the dozen or more adoptions that I have heard over the last 17 months. No Appellate Record.

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. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty?

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?  
I was a candidate for Sixteenth Circuit Family Court Judge, Seat 1 in the Fall of 1999. The legislative election was held in late January or early February of the 2000 legislative session. I was favorably reported out after screening, qualified and nominated; however, I voluntarily withdrew prior to the actual election.
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?  
After graduation from college and extensive travel, I worked as a substitute teacher at Union High School during the fall semester of 1979. From late fall, 1979 until July, 1980, I worked as an associate for Milliken & Company at the EMMD Plant in Union County, SC. Neither of these jobs were ever intended as career paths, though career paths in each were offered to me by administration/management of each entity. I concluded my time with these positions in order to enter law school in August, 1980.
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.  
I am not aware of any financial arrangements or business relationships that I have that would constitute a possible conflict of interest, other than the possibility of my former law partners appearing before me in court. Obviously, under that circumstance, I would advise all litigants of my prior relationship. If any litigant or I felt that my participation would create even the appearance of circumstances that would tend to impugn the integrity of the judicial system, I would recuse myself.
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. I have had a speeding ticket or two during my forty-three years of driving, but I do not recall any ticket for which a fine in excess of \$125.00 was imposed.
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?  
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, on one occasion:  
Virginia Braun and Douglas G. Braun v. Donna R. Atkinson, Individually and on behalf of New Horizon Realty, Thomas & Associates, Inc., Jeff Lawson, Individually and on behalf of the City of Union, and Thomas H. White IV. 2009-CP-44-0378.

I was included as a party defendant due to my status as the loan closing attorney for the underlying real estate transaction. Plaintiffs were purchasing a home in a subdivision in the City of Union. Unbeknownst to me, plaintiffs intended to establish a daycare center in this home. Prior to my involvement with the closing, plaintiffs and the realtor had engaged in some research, including consulting with the building inspector with the City of Union, and determined that there would be no prohibition against a daycare operation at the location. I was engaged just a day or two prior to closing to search the title and close the residential mortgage loan for what I understood to be a residential purchase only, as neither plaintiffs nor any of the other defendants had advised me of any special circumstances or concerns. After closing, plaintiffs began preparation to open the daycare facility, only to meet with protest from neighbors. The neighbors alleged that such an operation would violate restrictive and protective covenants for the subdivision. Plaintiffs never challenged this assertion, but rather brought suit against the realtor, the city building inspector, and me. I was dismissed from the action via summary judgment.

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 am covered by malpractice insurance, and have been throughout my almost thirty (30) years of practice. My firm's current policy is with National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa. The coverage is \$500,000 per claim/\$1,000,000 aggregate, and \$25,000 for disciplinary proceedings. The deductible is \$2,500.00. I do not currently have a tail policy or other extended reporting period coverage, though I certainly recognize the benefits of such a policy should I cease practicing law and would obtain this coverage if I were to be elected. I have been covered by a tail policy (extended coverage) through the policy as forth above since the date of my election to the bench. I do not have a judicial malpractice policy.

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 formerly had a Facebook page. However, subsequent to my election to the Family Court bench, I have eliminated my Facebook page. I do not participate in, nor am I a member of any other social media or internet site. To my knowledge, I have not been featured or depicted on a social media or internet site. Quite frankly, I feel that the potential risks of social media to the judiciary far outweigh any benefit.

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.  
I have no knowledge of any such 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 have no knowledge of any such 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.  
None to date, other than the cost of postage to submit this application.
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) SC Bar Association;  
(b) SC Conference of Family Court Judges.
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) Local legal counsel to Habitat for Humanity for Union County;
- (b) Elder, First Presbyterian Church, Union, SC;
- (c) Moderator, Providence Presbytery;
- (d) Member, Administrative Ministry Team, Providence Presbytery;
- (e) Member, Presbytery Response Team, Providence Presbytery;
- (f) Trustee, Providence Presbytery.

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 was reared by my saintly parents to live my life on the foundational principle that all human beings are created equal and that all human beings are entitled to be treated with fairness, dignity, courtesy, and respect. I have lived my life by that foundational principle. My life circumstances have put me in positions where I have had opportunities to relate with people ranging from high social standing and significant wealth to folks from third world countries who would be considered by many to live in circumstances that placed them as the “lowest of the low”. I have mined value from all of these experiences and relationships, and that value has served me well as I strive to be, and continue to be, a fair, just and equitable jurist.

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

- (a) J. Carlisle Oxner, President and CEO  
Arthur State Bank  
100 E. Main, Street, Union, SC 29379  
(864) 427-1213
- (b) Isaac V. McKissick  
181 Coggins Farm Road  
Spartanburg, SC 29307  
(864) 426-6001
- (c) Andrena Powell-Baker, Executive Director  
Union County Economic Development Board  
102 Camryn Lane  
Union, SC 29379  
(864) 427-6701
- (d) T. Mark Verdery  
General Presbyter, Providence Presbytery  
515 Oakland Avenue  
Rock Hill, SC 29730  
(803) 328-6269
- (e) Rose Lemmons-Berry, Business Administrator  
Providence Presbytery  
515 Oakland Avenue  
Rock Hill, SC 29730  
(803) 328-6269

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;  
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 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;  
N/A
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and  
N/A
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.  
N/A

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/Thomas H. White IV  
Date: July 24, 2015