



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

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:

1. Name: The Honorable Robert S. Armstrong
Active/Retired Judge

Name that you are known by if different from above
(Example: A Nickname): Bob

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: P.O. Box 1124, Beaufort, SC 29901

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): 843 255 5662

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1956
Place of Birth: Laurens, SC
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

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

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: [REDACTED]
Voter Registration Number: [REDACTED]

5. Family Status:
- (a) Are you single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated?
married
 - (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name.
June 5, 2010 Melissa Jane Armstrong
 - (c) If you have ever been divorced, or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds.
I have been divorced twice. I was the moving party when I divorced in Hampton, SC on September 16, 1990 on the ground of living separate and apart for more than one year. My ex-wife was the moving party in my second divorce. We were divorced on May 21, 1997 in Savannah, Georgia on the ground of irreconcilable differences.

- (d) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

Step-children:



6. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.
I have attended all of the mandatory judicial conferences. This includes the annual Family Court Judges Conference, the annual Judicial Conference, the annual South Carolina Family Court Bench/Bar Conference, and the family law section of the mid-year South Carolina Bar Conference. I have made presentations to the Hilton Head Bar, and the Richland County Bar.
7. Have you practiced law or served as a mediator or arbitrator since your retirement from the judiciary? If so, please describe.
Yes – I have served as a mediator and arbitrator in family law cases.
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.
Family Court Judge – 1998 - 2011
9. 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.
My wife and I own a gift shop – Gibson’s on Devine. I am a limited partner.
10. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings: and
 - (b) the identity and amount of 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.
- (Your response to this question may state “see attached”).
See attached
- (A net worth statement is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement).

Note: The Commission may require written confirmation that financial obligations have been satisfied or that the parties have agreed upon a payment schedule.

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? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations for which a fine of \$125 or less was imposed.

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? If yes, explain.

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? If so, give details.

No

14. Since your last screening, have you been sued, either personally or professionally? If so, give details.

No

15. Since your last screening, have you, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, been sanctioned for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or found to have committed such misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition.

[Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]

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? If so, give the details and the reasons why you believe you were the target of such criticism.

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 do not accept gifts from individual attorneys. I only go to events that are open to all lawyers and judges.

18. Have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.

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 South Carolina 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.

Retirement	\$96,231.48
Miscellaneous income	\$1,615.28

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 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.

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

None

22. 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. Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

None

23. 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?

Yes – I am a member of Facebook. I do not make “posts”. I am a member to keep track of my children.

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: 

Sworn to before me this 24 day of July, 2016.


(Notary Signature)

Amanda V. Tharin
(Notary Printed Name)

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: 12-1-21