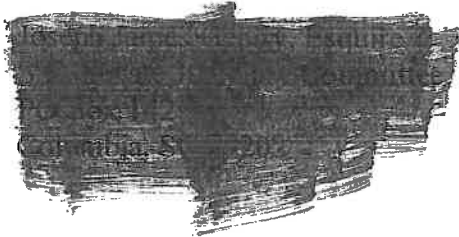


November 2, 2016



RE: Personal Data Questionnaire Amendment

Dear Mr. Gentry:

Please allow this letter to serve as an Amendment to my JMSC Personal Data Questionnaire. The Amendment includes the following corrections or updates:

10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.

<u>Conference/CLE Name</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
(sss) Best Practices in Testing: A mini-Conference for Bar Examiners NCBE in Madison, Wisconsin	10/18/16

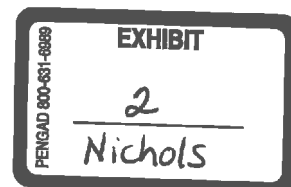
I updated the response to reflect an additional CLE attended since the initial filing.

11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.

(fffff) Lunch and Learn: Developing a Legal Career (SC Bar Young Lawyers Division, January 2016). I gave a presentation with Sally W. Elliott of the South Carolina Department of Corrections' Office of General Counsel regarding career tracks available in the law. This was part of a "Lunch and Learn" series organized by US District Court Judge J. Michelle Childs.

(ggggg) The Main Event – A Debate Between South Carolina Legislators (SC Association for Justice Convention, Consolidated Sections Seminar, August 2016). Thiele McVay and I co-moderated a debate between Senator Shane Massey and Senator Marlon Kimpson regarding recent legislative proposals in South Carolina.

(hhhhh) Recent Appellate Cases You Need to Know (SC Association for Justice Convention, Litigation at Sunrise, August 2016). I gave a brief overview of several recent appellate cases impacting tort litigation practice in South Carolina.



- (iiii) Trends in Products Liability Law (SC Association for Justice Convention, Torts & Negligence Seminar, August 2016). I presented an overview of trends in federal and South Carolina state products liability law.
- (jjjj) Ethics in Government (SC Association for Justice Convention, Ethics and Professionalism Seminar, August 2016). I facilitated a discussion with Senator Shane Massey and Senator Marlon Kimpson about the history, operation and 2016 changes to the Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act.
- (kkkk) Service of Process (Children's Law Center, USC School of Law, August 2016). This was an overview of service of process for non-lawyers employed by the SC Department of Social Services.
- (llll) Professional Ethics for Paralegals (Children's Law Center, USC School of Law, August 2016). This was a general ethics presentation that focused on the requirements for notarizing documents, protecting confidentiality, and avoiding the unauthorized practice of law.

I updated the response to reflect additional courses taught since the initial filing.

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.

* * *

- (c) July 1986 – April 1996. South Carolina Court of Appeals. I had the following legal experiences while with the South Carolina Court of Appeals:
 - i. July 1986 - July 1988. Central Staff Attorney. I reviewed records and briefs and prepared bench memoranda for cases assigned to the judges on the panel.
 - ii. July 1988 - December 1993. Deputy Chief Staff Attorney. I reviewed records and briefs and prepared bench memoranda for the cases assigned to the judges on the panel. I also assisted Chief Judge Alex M. Sanders as needed.
 - iii. December 1993-April 1996. Chief Staff Attorney. I reviewed records and briefs and prepared bench memoranda or prehearing reports for the judges on the panel. I also supervised 4 other staff attorneys, interviewed and recommended law clerks and staff attorneys for the

court, assisted the judicial department with training for new appellate court judges and staff, and attended ABA conferences on behalf of the Court. I also assisted Chief Judge William T. Howell as needed.

- iv. Fall 1987. Law Clerk for Chief Judge Alexander M. Sanders, Jr. I attended the panel bench conferences and the oral arguments for cases assigned to Judge Sanders. I assisted Judge Sanders with legal research and drafting of opinions, orders, memoranda, speeches and seminar materials.
- v. Spring and Summer 1988. Law Clerk for Associate Judge Randall T. Bell. I attended bench conferences and oral arguments for cases assigned to Judge Bell. I also assisted Judge Bell with legal research and drafting of opinions, orders, memoranda, and seminar materials.
- vi. October 1992- August 1993. Law Clerk for Acting Associate Judge (retired Chief Justice) C. Bruce Littlejohn. I attended bench conferences and oral arguments for cases assigned to Judge Littlejohn, who sat with the Court of Appeals by assignment due to a vacancy on the Court. I also assisted Judge Littlejohn with legal research and drafting of opinions, orders and memoranda.

I corrected the dates of service for my employment with the South Carolina Court of Appeals in Question 14(c). The original dates were incorrect due to a typographical error.

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? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates and resolution.

* * *

- (c) In researching matters for this application I discovered I was a defendant in a civil rights action filed pro se in 2015 in federal district court. The case is captioned Boyd v. Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson, and Delgado, LLC, et. al., C/A No. 3:15-4791-JFA-PJG (D.S.C.). I was named as an individual defendant. The District Court Clerk's office never issued a summons so the matter was never served upon me. The case was assigned to District Judge Joseph F. Anderson, who referred it to Federal Magistrate Judge Paige J. Gossett. Judge Gossett issued a report and recommendation that the matter be summarily dismissed. Boyd v. Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson, Delgado, 2016WL1274183 (D.S.C. 2016). Judge Anderson issued an order adopting Judge Gossett's report and recommendation and summarily dismissed the matter without prejudice and without issuance of and service of process. Boyd v. Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson and Delgado, LLC, 2016WL1258326 (D.S.C. 2016). I was unaware of the existence of this action until finding it while doing research through Westlaw. On September 16, 2016, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals summarily affirmed.

Boyd v. Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson and Delgado, LLC, No. 16-1626, 2016WL4930686 (4th Cir. 2016). The case remains dismissed.

- (d) In 2002, attorney Greg Sloan needed to file and serve a lawsuit against a deceased defendant, David D. Driggers. Mr. Driggers' family refused to open the estate so that a personal representative could be appointed to accept service. Under common practice Mr. Sloan asked me to serve in that capacity and I agreed to do so. Mr. Sloan obtained an order appointing me as Mr. Driggers' personal representative and I accepted service of the complaint. *Proter v. Nichols*, 02-CP-40-04972. Mr. Sloan then forwarded the complaint to Mr. Driggers' insurer, GEICO, who hired Ronald Alexander to serve as defense counsel. Mr. Alexander then appeared in the matter and the parties ultimately settled the matter and dismissed the case. This lawsuit was not against me personally but was against me as PR of Mr. Driggers' estate. I initially failed to disclose this because it occurred 14 years ago, my role was minimal, and I forgot about this matter.

I updated the response to Question 35 regarding lawsuits.

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. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?
- (a) I spent \$1.40 in postage to mail the required Letter to the Commission on Lawyer Conduct with copies to the Supreme Court and the JMSC.
- (b) I spent \$67.43 for paper, envelopes and labels and \$67.68 in postage to send an introductory letter to members of the General Assembly. I have reported these expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees.

I updated itemized expenditures in Question 44.

I have also attached a new verification for this update.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these matters. Please let me know if you need anything further.

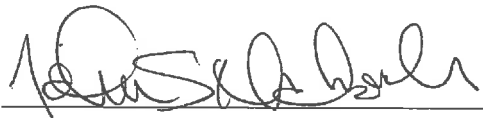
Sincerely,



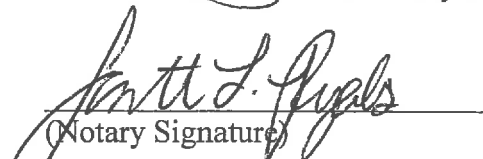
John S. Nichols

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 1st day of November, 2016.


(Notary Signature)

Samantha Rypals
(Notary Printed Name)
Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: 11/24/22