


Meliah Bowers Jefferson
Personal Data Questionnaire
Originally submitted on August 1, 2016

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.

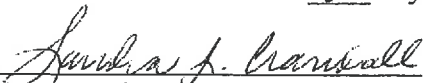
Supplemental Response:

I would like to supplement my response to Question 35 to add the following case: *Robert Wayne Underwood vs Meliah D Bowers*, Case No: 2005-CP-40-06452. This matter was filed in the South Carolina Court of Common Pleas in Richland County in 2005. It involved a minor motor vehicle accident, which was settled by my insurance carrier. I do not recall having substantial involvement with the case. It was disclosed to me during the course of the review of my background by SLED.

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

Signature: 

Sworn to before me this 10th day of November, 2016.


(Notary Signature)

Sandra J. Crandall
(Notary Printed Name)
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: 9/5/23

**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court, At-Large, Seat 1

1. Name: Mrs. Meliah Bowers Jefferson

Name that you are known by if different from above
(Example: A Nickname): None.

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? No.
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: 44 East Camperdown Way, Greenville, South Carolina 29607

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): (864) 242-8200

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1980
Place of Birth: Lexington, South Carolina
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: In the space below, (a) state whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated; (b) if married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name; (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; and (d) state the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

Married

(a) December 15, 2008 to Ashante Bakari Jefferson

(b) Never divorced
[REDACTED]

6. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release.

I have never served in the military.

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 South Carolina Moore School of Business, 1998-2002, Bachelor of Science

(b) University of South Carolina – Aiken, 1999, Summer Semester Course Work Only

(c) University of South Carolina School of Law, 2002-2005, Juris Doctor

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.

I was admitted to practice law in the State of South Carolina in 2005. I have never taken the bar exam in any other state.

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.

During college, I was a member of the Delta Sigma Pi International Business Fraternity for two years (2003-2005). I also worked during my college years as a sales associate at the Parisian and Belk department stores approximately 20-30 hours per week. During my last years of college, I worked as a teller with the South Carolina Federal Credit Union approximately 20-30 hours per week from 2001-2002.

I continued to work during my first year of law school as a leasing consultant at the Waterway Apartments in Lexington, South Carolina in a part-time capacity up to 20 hours per week. I was a member of Women in Law and the Black Law Students Association (“BLSA”) throughout my three years in law school. I served as the president of BLSA during the 2003-04 academic year. I was a student editor on the American Bar Association Real Property, Probate, and Trust Journal in that same year. I also tutored contracts law as part of the Academic Assistance Program at the law school during the 2003-04 academic year and acted as the student coordinator for the program in the following academic year. In 2004, I became involved with a program called Women Helping Women, which was focused on connecting female student-athletes participating in the basketball and volleyball programs at the University of South Carolina with mentors outside of sports.

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

(a) 79th Judicial Conference of the Fourth Circuit; May 2016

(b) 2016 SCWLA “Taking Care of Business and Looking at the Business Side of Law”; March 2016

(c) SC Bar Convention Wellness Seminar “Fit To Practice”; January 2015

- (d) In-house Counsel and Attorney-Client Privilege; September 2014
 - (e) 89th Annual National Bar Association Convention; July 2014
 - (f) Haynsworth Perry Inn of Court Series; May 2014
 - (g) Lawyer Mentoring Program; May 2014
 - (h) Haynsworth Perry Inn of Court Series; November 2013
 - (i) Appellate Practice Project: Presenting Criminal Cases to the Court of Appeals; October 2013
 - (j) Ethics and eDiscovery; September 2013
 - (k) The Carolina Patent, Trademark, & Copyright Law Association Conference; September 2013
 - (l) The Connected Corporation; September 2013
 - (m) South Carolina Association for Justice Annual Convention; August 2013
 - (n) Haynsworth Perry Inn of Court Series; March 2013
 - (o) South Carolina Bar Convention (Dispute Resolution, Torts & Insurance, Trial & Appellate Advocacy, and Ethics seminars); January 2013
 - (p) Haynsworth Perry Inn of Court Series; January 2013
 - (q) Federal Sentencing Guidelines; November 2012
 - (r) Advanced Federal Sentencing Guidelines; November 2012
 - (s) Drugs, Alcohol, and the legal Profession; September 2012
 - (t) Federal Bar Association Annual Meeting and CLE; September 2012
 - (u) Federal Sentencing Guidelines; November 2011
 - (v) South Carolina Black Lawyers Association Annual Convention; October 2011
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.
- (a) Panelist, "Hot Topics in IP Law," National Bar Association Convention, July 2016
 - (b) Panelist, "Taking Care of Business and Looking at the Business Side of Law: Handling Unexpected Life Challenges while Pursuing Your Career," SCWLA CLE March 2016
 - (c) Presenter, "Hot Topics in Civil Trial Practice: Qualification and Examination of Expert Witnesses," SC Bar – CLE Division, February 2016
 - (d) Presenter, "Fit to Practice: Learning How to Roll with the Punches," January 2016
 - (e) Presenter, "Appellate Practice Project," Greenville Bar Association Annual CLE, February 2015
 - (f) Panelist, "Diversity and Inclusiveness: Right Strategy, Right Now," S.C. Bar Convention, January 2015
 - (g) Panelist, "So You Want to Be A Lawyer and A Mom," SCWLA–Greenville Region, June 2014
 - (h) Presenter, "Pre-Trial Motions Practice," Greenville Bar Association Annual CLE, February 2014
 - (i) Presenter, Wyche's Annual Ethics Roundtable, February 2014
 - (j) Panelist, Furman University Constitution Day: Voting Rights Act, September 2013
 - (k) Speaker, Federal Bar Association – Greenville Summer Associate Luncheon; July 2012
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

- (a) Co-Author, "Initial Civil Appeals: South Carolina" and "Additional Civil Appeals: South Carolina" Practical Law, 2016
 - (b) Contributor, "Issues Relating to Organizational Forms and Taxation U.S.A.–South Carolina," Lex Mundi Publication, 2010
 - (c) Author, "Supreme Court Implements New Business Court Pilot Program," G–Bar News, September 2007
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) United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (pro hac vice); 2016
 - (b) United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina (pro hac vice); 2016
 - (c) United States Supreme Court; 2014
 - (d) United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit; 2007
 - (e) United States District Court for the District of South Carolina; 2007
 - (f) State Courts of South Carolina; 2005

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 began my legal career in 2005 as a law clerk for the Honorable Jean H. Toal, Chief Justice (now retired) of the Supreme Court of South Carolina. During my clerkship, I had the opportunity to work on a wide variety of cases including complex civil matters, domestic relations, administrative proceedings, and criminal cases. I reviewed numerous appellate briefs and trial transcripts involving civil procedure, constitutional law, and the death penalty. My primary responsibilities were research of the issues on appeal, drafting bench memoranda, and assisting in opinion drafting.

My clerkship ended in 2007 and I joined Wyche, P.A. (then Wyche, Burgess, Freeman, & Parham, P.A.) as an associate attorney practicing general civil litigation. Wyche gave me an opportunity to take on substantive legal work almost immediately upon entering private practice. In the three years of my initial practice with the firm, I actively engaged in trial and appellate litigation. I argued motions in state and federal courts. I participated in all stages of discovery including deposing witnesses. Mandatory alternative dispute resolution requirements have dynamically changed trial practice. As a result, I often participated in mediation preparation and took a principle role in leading clients through mediation on multiple occasions. Even with diminishing opportunities for young lawyers to receive trial experience, I was able to second chair a highly contested condemnation jury trial. I also appeared regularly in family court as an appointed guardian ad litem.

In the fall of 2010, I left Wyche to serve as the lead law clerk for the Honorable J. Michelle Childs upon her confirmation as a District Court judge for the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina. As lead law clerk, I was primarily responsible for assisting Judge Childs in managing the substantive work on her docket, which was substantial. I assisted Judge Childs with legal research and drafting orders on civil, criminal,

social security and disability, and *pro se* prisoner cases. I also assisted Judge Childs as she presided over many hearings, sentencings, and more than a dozen jury trials.

I rejoined Wyche in 2013 as an associate. I became a shareholding member of the firm in 2014. I work primarily in the area of trial and appellate litigation, with an emphasis on complex civil litigation and intellectual property law. I represent plaintiffs and defendants in cases involving corporate governance, commercial law, election law, governmental authority, media law, and disputes over intellectual property – such as trademark, copyright, patents, and trade secrets. I also assist clients with general corporate matters and advise clients on assessing intellectual property issues associated with corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions.

15. Please answer the following (if you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable):

(a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court Judge.

(b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court Judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area.

In my practice, my criminal experience has been limited to my work on the appeal of a murder conviction. My client was convicted of murder under the theory of hand of one hand of all accomplice liability and sentenced to thirty-one years imprisonment. The case was affirmed on appeal to the Court of Appeals. It is currently in the process of briefing on appeal to the Supreme Court. I accepted the pro bono appointment to represent the defendant as part of the Court of Appeals' Appellate Practice Project. In addition to my work on this appellate case, I worked closely with Judge Childs on many criminal matters during my clerkship. These experiences included presiding over pretrial hearings, trials, and sentencing hearings. I have a broad range of civil litigation experience that spans from the basic breach of contract dispute to complex multi-district litigation matters. As an attorney, I represent plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal court. My cases have involved contractual disputes, medical malpractice, personal injury, franchise disputes, condemnation proceedings, insurance liability, class action litigation, and

intellectual property. Because I have had the opportunity to work as lead counsel on a number of cases, I have gained experience in case management and I understand the expectations that attorneys have of judges. From my time as a clerk with Judge Childs, I also understand how to efficiently use judicial resources to move a case from filing through discovery and motion practice to resolution.

- (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity.
 - (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Judge, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law Judge Court.
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 been rated as a rising star by Super Lawyers for the years 2015 and 2016.

*** Retired justices/judges and justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 17-22. If a candidate is seeking a judgeship different than his or her current position, Questions 17-22 should be answered based on experience prior to serving on the bench.**

17. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) federal: I physically appear in court 2-5 times per year
 - (b) state: I physically appear in court 5-10 times per year
- I frequently appear in both federal and state court by way of written filings.
18. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) civil: 80%
 - (b) criminal: 05%
 - (c) domestic: 00%
 - (d) other: 15%
19. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the five years prior to your election to the bench involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
- (a) jury: 90%
 - (b) non-jury: 10%
- Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?
In the past, I have most often served as associate counsel on trial court matters. More recently, I have enjoyed multiple opportunities to serve as chief counsel on trial court matters.

20. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency, prior to your election to the bench. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
- (a) Ford v. Pulliam, C.A. No.: 2014-CP-37-354. This case involved a dispute over the payment of a promissory note. I represented a widow who inherited a promissory note held by her husband's former business partner. I was able to get an award in favor of my client after a bench trial. It is significant because this was the first case I tried as lead counsel.
 - (b) Frazer, et al. v. Jasper County, South Carolina, School District, et al., C.A. No.: 9:14-cv-2578-RMG. This was a case concerning a dispute over the Jasper County School Board redistricting. The plaintiffs contended that the General Assembly had failed to timely redraw the school board district lines after the 2010 census. Wyche represented Senator Clementa Pinckney, in his official capacity. I worked on this matter as associate counsel. It is significant to me because of the important Constitutional issues resolved in the litigation.
 - (c) South Atlantic, LLC v. MP Husky, LLC, C.A. No.: 2008-CP-23-9732. This case involved a dispute over defective industrial parts. South Atlantic sued MP Husky for failure to pay certain invoices for services. MP Husky counterclaimed that South Atlantic provided defective galvanized steel coating on industrial parts causing MP Husky to incur substantial damages to replace products to its end customer. I handled the case as lead counsel and fully prepared it for a non-jury trial. The case went to trial after I began my clerkship with Judge Childs. Wyche successfully secured an award in favor of MP Husky. This case is significant to me because it was the first case in which I handled an expert deposition.
 - (d) Bevier v. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of SC, 337 Fed. App'x 357 (D.S.C. July 24, 2009) (unpublished). This case involved a copyright infringement dispute. I represented the plaintiff, a software developer, who alleged that Blue Cross & Blue Shield wrongfully used software that he independently developed. The case is significant to me because it was the first complex intellectual property case that I handled as lead counsel. My interest in intellectual property law began to grow as a result of this case.
 - (e) Channelbind Intern. Corp. v. Esselte Corp. et al., C.A. No. 7:08-cv-2880-HMH (D.S.C. October 29, 2009) (unpublished). This case involved a contractual dispute over a licensing agreement. Channelbind International Corporation alleged that Esselte Corporation and related entities failed to properly terminate a licensing agreement authorizing the sale of certain paper binding technology. We represented the Esselte entities in obtaining summary judgment in their favor. The case is significant because it was the first litigation matter that I handled as lead counsel for an international corporation.
21. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.
- (a) Hodge v. UniHealth Post-Acute Care of Bamberg, LLC, et al., Appellate Case No. 2015-001183 (currently pending in the Court of Appeals)
 - (b) Hidria, U.S.A. v. Delo, d.d., 415 S.C. 533, 783 S.E.2d 839 (Ct. App. 2015)

- (c) State v. Harry, 413 S.C. 534, 776 S.E.2d 387 (Ct. App. 2015) cert. granted May 21, 2016
- (d) Jameson v. Morris, 385 S.C. 215, 684 S.E.2d 168 (2009)
- (e) Bevier v. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of SC, 337 Fed. App'x 357 (D.S.C. July 24, 2009)

22. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.
State v. Harry, 413 S.C. 534, 776 S.E.2d 387 (Ct. App. 2015) cert. granted May 21, 2016
23. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.
I have never held judicial office.
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)
(b)
(c)
(d)
(e)
25. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. 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? If so, give details, including dates.
I have never held public office.
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.
I have never served as a judge.
27. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.
This is my first time seeking elective, judicial, or other public office.
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? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.
I got my first job in 1995 at the age of 15 working as a cashier in a Burger King restaurant in Aiken, South Carolina. During high school, I also worked as a sales associate in Goody's Family Clothing located in North Augusta, South Carolina, from 1996 until 1998. In 1998, I

began working in the shoe department at Belk Department Store in Columbia, South Carolina. I was a cosmetics consultant at Parisian Department Store in Columbia, South Carolina from 2000 to 2001. In 2001, I joined South Carolina Federal Credit Union as a teller. Once I was accepted to law school, I became a leasing consultant with the Waterway Apartments in Lexington, South Carolina from 2001 until 2003.

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.
I currently co-own Karidan Logistics Company, LLC, a general freight trucking company, with my husband. I am a managing member of the company and regularly participate in the strategic leadership of the company.
30. 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").

(A net worth statement is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.)

See attached the Confidential Financial Statement submitted as part of the Judicial application.

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

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.
My husband and I are co-owners of Karidan Logistics Company, LLC, a general freight trucking company. I would consider it a possible conflict of interest to hear cases involving any financial entity currently extending credit to the business and any company currently directly contracting with the company for commercial transportation services.
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? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations for which a fine of \$125 or less was imposed.
No.

33. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.
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? If so, give details.
To my knowledge, no tax lien or other collection procedure has been instituted against me by any governmental authority. I have never defaulted on a student loan or filed for bankruptcy.
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.
I was named as a defendant in a civil rights case filed in the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina by a *pro se* prisoner during my service as a law clerk in the chambers of the Honorable J. Michelle Childs in 2012. The plaintiff alleged that multiple government officials and judicial employees were conspiring to deny him the opportunity to have his cases fairly reviewed by the court. Other defendants included Judge Childs, Former Attorney General Eric Holder, and President Barack Obama. The case was frivolous and dismissed with prejudice.
36. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been sanctioned or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or has any jurisdiction found that you committed any 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.]
37. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details.
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 insured by the malpractice insurance policy held by my firm, Wyche, P.A. My coverage under the policy has been effective since my return to the firm in May of 2013. I was previously covered by the firm policy during the period of my past employment with the firm from September of 2007 through August of 2010. I have never been covered by a tail policy. The policy provides coverage in an amount of \$10,000,000.00 with and deductible in the amount of \$200,000.00.

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 have active social media profiles using Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram. If I were to serve in judicial office, I would deactivate my Twitter profile. I would remain active on Facebook and Instagram. However, I would change my privacy settings to prevent public viewing of my information. I would maintain my LinkedIn profile. All of my activity on social media would relate to maintaining contact with my extended family and friends. I would also use social media to update those family and friends about my heart health journey and my daughter. Although I have made some general comments relating to politics in the past, I will make no political comments in the future if I am elected.

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)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.

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? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved.

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.

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.

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?

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 or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening?

No.

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? If so, give details.

No.

Note: The flash drive with your application materials contains (1) Section 2-19-70(c); (2) JMISC Rule 24, and (3) informal opinions and letters concerning pledging prohibitions, with which third parties acting on your behalf, as well as you, must comply.

47. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? If so, give details.

No.

Are you aware of any third parties contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? If so, give details.

No.

48. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?

Yes.

49. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.

No.

50. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.

No.

51. 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) National Bar Association
 - (c) South Carolina Bar Association
 - Member of the Board of Governors, 2015-2016
 - Representative to the House of Delegates, 2012-2016
 - (d) South Carolina Chief Justice's Commission on the Profession, Law School Professionalism Committee, 2012-present
 - (e) South Carolina Board of Paralegal Certification, Chairperson 2016
 - (f) South Carolina Women Lawyer's Association,
Board of Directors 2014-2016
 - (g) South Carolina Black Lawyer's Association
 - (h) Donald James Sampson Bar Association
Vice-President 2015-present
 - (i) Haynsworth Perry Inn of Court
Membership Committee 2014
Executive Committee 2015
52. 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) American Heart Association
 - National Go Red For Women Spokeswoman, 2015-2016
 - Upstate Go Red For Women Spokeswoman, 2014-2015
 - Upstate Heart Walk Executive Challenge Chairperson, 2014
 - (b) Friends of the Greenville Zoo,
Board Member, 2008-2012
Vice-Chairperson, 2012-2013
 - (c) The Diversity Recruitment Consortium, Volunteer Ambassador, 2013-present
 - (d) Furman University Riley Institute Diversity Leaders Initiative Fellow, 2016
 - (e) National Bar Association 40 Best Advocates Under 40, 2015
 - (f) Greenville Business Magazine Best and Brightest Under 35, 2014
 - (g) South Carolina Bar Association Leadership Academy, 2012-2013
 - (h) Leadership Greenville Class 38, May 2012
53. 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. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

When I graduated from law school, I was not convinced that I should stay here and practice law. I did not believe that South Carolina could offer me the type of law practice and career that I wanted. But, as fate would have it, I was afforded the opportunity to clerk for Chief Justice Toal at the Supreme Court of South Carolina. My perspective on what it means to be a lawyer was forever changed during that clerkship. I learned some valuable lessons about the sacrifices of those that came before me and even more about the untapped potential for growth of the greater good in our State. Most importantly, I learned about the great rewards of public service. Since that clerkship, I have dedicated much of my time and energy to my community because I wanted to make sure that I was doing something in my life to make a difference in the lives of others. It was not until after I clerked again, this time for Judge Childs, that I really understood the good that great judges can contribute to society. I want to be one of those great judges and I believe that I have the background and experience to meet that requirement. In my experiences as a practitioner, I have gained a wealth of knowledge about many of the areas of law covered in Circuit Court and the nature of my practice helps me to appreciate the complex litigation matters that are working through our State courts. I also have great insight into what it takes to be effective when sitting behind the bench. My clerking experiences are extensive and have provided me with important tools to efficiently and successfully manage a heavy court docket. Finally, I believe that I have the temperament and patience to be a judge that represents the judiciary and the State of South Carolina with dignity and respect.

54. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons, including your banker, from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application packet.*

- (a) Mr. Shannon Pollard
Assistant Sales Manager
South Carolina Federal Credit Union
Post Office Box 190012
Charleston, South Carolina 29419
(803) 738-3027
- (b) Mr. A. Mattison Bogan
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
1320 Main Street, 17th Floor
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(803)255-9589
- (c) Ms. Anne S. Ellefson
Deputy General Counsel for Academic and Community Affairs
Greenville Health System
701 Grove Road
Greenville, South Carolina 29605

- (864)455-7000
- (d) Mr. Jack D. Griffeth
Collins & Lacy, P.C.
110 West North Street, Suite 100
Greenville, South Carolina 29601
(864)282-9100
- (e) Ms. Lesley R. Moore
Freeman & Moore, P.C.
245 East Broad Street, Suite D
Greenville South Carolina 29601
(864)236-8500

55. 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.


56. 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.

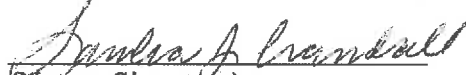
57. For sitting judges, have you used judicial letterhead or the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office? Not applicable.

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 August, 2016.


(Notary Signature)

Sandra J. Crandall
(Notary Printed Name)
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: 9/15/23