

**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**



Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court Judge, Ninth Circuit, Seat 2

1. Name: The Honorable Michèle Patrão Forsythe

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

N/A

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge?
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

Family Court Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Seat 3

Home Address:



Business Address:

Charleston County Judicial Center
100 Broad Street
Suite 256
Charleston, South Carolina

E-Mail Address:



Telephone Number:

(home): [Redacted]
(office): 843.958.4439
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1973
Place of Birth: Newark, New Jersey
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#: SCDL [Redacted]
Voter Registration Number: [Redacted]

5. 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. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.

No

6. 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.

(a) Married

(b) Marriage to Charles Robert Forsythe September 5, 1998

(c) Never divorced

[REDACTED]

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 Maryland Baltimore County, 1991-1996

(1) Bachelors of Arts-Political Science

(2) Minor-International Affairs Concentration in Latin American Politics

(b) Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, 1995

(1) Foreign Student Spanish Language Program-No Degree obtained. This was a foreign student exchange program and I obtained course credits to complete my minor in International Affairs at the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

(c) University of South Carolina School of Law, 1999-2002

(1) Juris Doctor

8. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

(a) The University of South Carolina School of Law 1999-2002

(1) Student Bar Association Member 2000-2002

(2) Student Bar Association Special Events Co-Chair 2001

(3) Southeastern Environmental Law Journal 2000-2002

(4) Southeastern Environmental Law Journal Publication Editor 2002

(5) Student Loan Forgiveness Committee 2002

(6) Student Talent Show Fundraiser for Loan Forgiveness Committee 2002

9. 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. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

(a) South Carolina, 3 times Year of Admission 2003

10. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts.

(a) In 2002, I was a law clerk pending bar results at Nexsen Pruet, LLC. I worked on various matters in legal malpractice defense, and personal injury defense.

(b) From late 2003 into 2004 I practiced as a contract attorney for Rosen Law Firm, LLC. I worked on various matters in family law, and business litigation.

(c) From 2004 to 2005 I practiced as an associate attorney with Hulsey Litigation Group, LLC. My responsibilities involved legal research and writing regarding personal injury claims, business disputes, class action claims, including but not limited to mass tort cases. The majority of those matters were in federal district court.

(d) In 2005, I practiced as a contract attorney with Grimball & Cabaniss, LLC. I handled all DSS appointments for abuse and neglect cases for the law firm's offices in Charleston, South Carolina and Kingstree, South Carolina. I also handled all minor settlement hearings in probate and circuit court, and worked on personal injury defense matters.

(e) In 2005 to 2006 I also practiced as a contract attorney with Savage & Savage, P.A. I divided my time between Grimball & Cabaniss, LLC and Savage & Savage, P.A. While working for Savage & Savage, I worked on personal injury cases, securities litigation, and criminal defense matters. My responsibilities including legal research and writing on civil and criminal defense issues.

(f) In 2006 I became as an associate with the law firm Query Sautter Gliserman & Price, LLC. My practice was extremely diverse. Immediately, I began representing clients in Family Court, in matters regarding child custody, divorce, and equitable distribution. During the course of my practice, I represented criminal defense clients in Magistrate Court, the Court of General Sessions, and United States Federal District Court. I also represented clients in business litigation disputes, serving as chief counsel in the trial of those cases. I also represented clients in personal injury and wrongful death cases, serving as second chair during several trials. As an associate and subsequently as a partner, I also appeared before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, in brief writing and oral argument. In 2008, I was certified as a Family Court Mediator and began mediating cases regarding abuse and neglect, divorce, equitable distribution, spousal support, child custody, and child support. During the time, I was also appointed as a Guardian ad Litem by the Family Court in contested custody cases.

(g) In late 2011, I was offered partnership in the law practice, which ultimately became known as Query Sautter Forsythe, LLC. As my practice continued to evolve, I

represented clients in more complex litigation. I was frequently asked to serve as co-counsel with other attorneys outside my law firm on complex litigation, which required additional legal research or intense litigation and court room presentation. As a result of my work in my firm, I also took on more leadership responsibility when it came to managing the daily details of the law firm, including managing employees, reviewing accounts payable and receivable. At that point in my career I became a lead attorney for the Southern States Police Benevolent Association in the Charleston area. I routinely represented law enforcement officers in all matters associated with possible police misconduct, and was frequently called to scenes involving officer involved shootings.

- (h) In February 2016, I was elected to the Family Court bench. For over two years, I have handled a variety of matters on the Family Court. I have also remained active in extra judicial duties, working on programs that will provide alternatives to incarceration of juveniles, working on language access matters in South Carolina, and most recently working on the issue of human trafficking. During this time, I was selected as Chairman of the Language Access Task Force for the Supreme Court's Commission on Access to Justice. During my tenure we produced recommendations regarding language access in South Carolina. Recently, I was selected as a member of the Family Court Bench Bar. I have been working on a sub-committee for the Family Court Bench Bar which is examining the most efficient use of court time in abuse and neglect cases.

Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 11-17. If you are a judge seeking a judgeship different than your current position, Questions 11-17 should be answered based on your experience prior to serving on the bench.

11. Please answer the following:

- (b) 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 and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court Judge. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Family Court Judge within the past five years.

N/A

- (c) 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 and procedural knowledge 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. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Circuit Court Judge within the past five years.

My private practice included Family Court and Circuit Court experience. I was fortunate to spend the first few years of my private practice learning from attorneys possessed with an unparalleled depth of experience and a mastery of the law. They taught me to take on all of the challenges of practice and represent clients with the most rigorous depth possible. Our small law firm serves such a range of clients, that there is little I have not been able to experience in the Circuit Court.

Criminal Matters. My experience has included criminal defense matters, ranging from magistrate's court charges, such as traffic offenses and driving under the influence, to criminal offenses in the Court of General Sessions, including sexual assault, burglary, armed robbery, and murder. During the course of my time in private practice, I also represented clients in Federal District Court in criminal charges, ranging from forgery to money laundering, and drug possession. I also represented clients in probation violations, and parole hearings. Some examples of my criminal defense experience are as follows:

State v. Jason Michael Maxwell, 2008-GS-08-776 Murder, 2008-GS-08-1444 Burglary First Degree. I joined the team on this case weeks before the commencement of the trial. In preparation for the trial, I reviewed extensive discovery and interviewed dozens of potential witnesses. Defendant was charged with Murder and Burglary 1st. Defendant's cell phone was allegedly found at the scene. The decedent was shot at close range by a shotgun. The Trial took place in 2010. I filed several motions in limine and was successful in all my motions, but one. I attempted to keep out the autopsy photographs, but was not able to keep them all from the jury. We commenced the case and I delivered the opening statement. I cross examined several witnesses during the presentation of the State's case. Ultimately the Defendant chose to plead guilty during the course of the trial. He was sentenced to 60 years on the Murder charge and 25 years on the Burglary 1st charge. Initially, he was order to serve those sentences consecutively. Ultimately, on a Motion to Reconsider Defendant was ordered to serve the sentences concurrently.

State v. Gustavo Duarte, 2009-GS-10-001423. This was a case where the Defendant was charged in General Sessions with Lewd Act on a Minor. Ultimately, after careful investigation and extensive work with the Solicitor's Office I was able to convince the prosecution that the facts and circumstances did not rise to the charged offense. This case

also prompted an investigation by the Department of Social Services, and the opening of a case. I was able represent my client in both matters. Ultimately, the Defendant pled guilty in Transfer Court to Cruelty to a Child.

State v. Robert Mitchell, 2013-GS-10-2838 and 2013A1010200537. This was a case where the Defendant was indicted for Murder. Defendant was alleged to have participated in a robbery-murder. The Defendant had a previous criminal history in Florida, such that his pending charges could have subjected him to a life sentence under South Carolina's third strike rule. I was Defendant's Fifth Attorney. After review of Discovery in this matter, my client decided to cooperate with the Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office and testify against his Co-Defendant. The Solicitor was able to obtain a conviction against my client's Co-Defendant on the charge of Murder. Months later, my client entered a plea of guilty to Accessory After the Fact. He was given five years, but released upon the service of three years. He was ordered to serve the remaining term on probation. My client had been ineligible for bond, despite numerous attempts to obtain a bond. As a result, he was released five days after he entered his guilty plea.

Plaintiffs and Defendants. Private practice afforded me the opportunity to work on a variety of matters, which could be as simple as an automobile collision; or as complicated as a failed business transaction, medical malpractice injury, or a wrongful death case. Because our law firm represented people from all walks of life, we often represented those who were injured and those who owned small and medium sized businesses. My first experiences started by serving as associate counsel in a variety of litigation matters. I was often tasked with a majority of the research and writing responsibilities. Ultimately, however, I grew comfortable in the court room and appeared in all of the courts in South Carolina. My Circuit Court experience ranged from non-jury trials where I served as lead trial attorney for Plaintiffs and Defendants, to criminal trials in the Court of General Sessions. The following are a small example of matters, which I believe constitute significant experience in the Circuit Court.

Civil Non Jury Matters.

Tim McGinnis v. Philip Pinckney, 2003-CP-10-3356, 2007-CP-10-1797. This was a an action where I represented the Plaintiff in a Quantum Meruit case. Plaintiff was the owner of Just for Fun Playgrounds and sold the play ground business to the Defendant under the guise of a franchise contract. Defendant was to pay Plaintiff \$2,500.00 per month and 5% of the monthly gross proceeds of the business. Defendant initially commenced paying Plaintiff on a monthly basis. Over time he

stopped making payments. After conducting detailed discovery and surviving various motions to dismiss including a statute of limitations defense, I proceeded to a Non-Jury Trial in 2010. I obtained a verdict in the amount of \$137,695.95. The Defendant filed in appeal, while on appeal the parties negotiated a settlement in favor my client, the Plaintiff.

Mincey v. Mincey and MLM, Inc., 2005-CP-10-3899. This matter was a 2008 bench trial in the Court of Common Pleas regarding language in a Family Court Order. I represented the Defendant. The parties were divorced but continued working together in a construction partnership. A dispute arose during the winding up of the partnership. Plaintiff demanded additional money in distributions. Defendant denied that Plaintiff was entitled to any additional money. After a one day trial with various witnesses, the Court took the matter under advisement. The Court found in favor of the Defendant. This matter was significant because the language of the Final Order and Decree of Divorce was critical in the outcome of the Common Pleas case. Plaintiff chose not to appeal the Court's ruling.

Civil Jury Matters.

Murphy v. Wachovia, 2006-CP-10-1155. This was a case where Plaintiff's Mother (deceased) purchased Certificates of Deposit from Wachovia Bank, formerly South Coast Bank. When her son attempted to redeem the Certificate of Deposit, the Bank refused to honor the CD and denied the existence of the account. The action was filed by a former law partner in the firm. Upon his retirement, I inherited all of the cases, including Mr. Murphy's case. This case was litigated, and ultimately resolved through mediation. Ultimately, the bank paid a confidential settlement to the Plaintiff, prior to the jury trial.

Angelic Brown and Trojan Bell, Individually and as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Travone L. Bell, Decedent v. The City of North Charleston Police Department and Charleston County Sheriff's Office, 2006-CP-10-2996. This was a wrongful death survival action where a minor died in the custody of the Charleston County Sheriff's Office after he was arrested by the North Charleston Police Department. The minor had ingested cocaine during his arrest. Police pulled a bag of crack cocaine from the minor's mouth. Despite the ingestion, North Charleston Police Department failed to obtain medical attention for the minor. On the night he was booked at the Charleston County Detention Center the minor suffered a cardiac infarction. He never regained consciousness and died weeks later. The Federal District Court bifurcated the federal causes of action and the

state causes of action. The Federal case went up on appeal to the United States Court of Appeals Fourth Circuit (see below). The state cause of action were tried in November 2009 in the Ninth Circuit Court of Common Pleas. After a week-long trial, the jury did not find gross negligence, as required under the South Carolina Tort Claims Act. The Jury found for the Defendants. The case was important however, because the City of North Charleston changed its policies regarding the ingestion of narcotics and appropriate law enforcement response.

Glenn Faircloth and Tonya Faircloth, individually and as parents and natural guardians of John Doe #1, a minor v. Berkeley County School District, and Carl Halstead and Linda Halstead, Individually and as Parents and Natural Guardians of John Doe #2, 2007-CP-08-93. I filed this action on behalf of the parents of a minor child. The child, was sexually abused by an older child. John Doe #1 disclosed that he was sexually involved with John Doe #2 to an employee of the Berkeley County School District. John Doe #1 was considered disabled. The parents of the John Doe #2 settled the claim. After years of litigation, the claims was also settled with the Berkeley County School District.

Suncoast Properties of South Carolina v. Charleston on the Beach, LLC and Horace Rooke and Horace Rooke and Charleston on the Beach, LLC v. Eric Davidson and Davidson, Bennett and Wigger, 2005-CP-10-726; Beachside Real Estate, Inc and Vickie Hollingsworth v. Suncoast Properties of South Carolina, LLC, Charleston on the Beach, LLC and Horace Rooke, 2007-CP-10-1543. This series of lawsuits originated with a failed real estate transaction. Our client, Horace Rooke entered into a real estate sales contract wherein he would sell a hotel located on Folly Beach to Suncoast Properties, LLC. As a result of a clause in his loan documentation, our client could not enter into the contract. The purchaser filed and action against our client. We filed

John Koon, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Chavis Berley v. Ruby Deaton, 2011-CP-36-549 and also South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company v. Ruby Deaton, and John Koon, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Chavis Berley, 2011-CP-36-91. This was a wrongful death and survival action, which was successfully settled after litigation in a declaratory judgment action. The action was filed on behalf of the estate of minor who had died as a result of strangulation on playground equipment. The declaratory judgment action was filed on the grounds that the minor child was a resident relative of the Defendant, Ruby Deaton and therefore fell under an exclusion in the homeowner's policy. Many family court documents were utilized as evidence in this case. The issue of grandparent custody played a prominent role in the litigation. After oral argument at a Motion

Hearing, the Circuit Court determined that the minor child was not a resident relative and therefore, Farm Bureau's Declaratory Judgment action was denied. We were subsequently able to settle the wrongful death survival action in favor of the Estate.

- (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 or a Circuit Court Judge within the past five years.

N/A

- (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Court, 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 or Circuit Court within the past five years.

N/A

12. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

- (a) Federal: Prior to taking the bench, I appeared in federal court on many occasions in reference to civil and criminal matters. I appeared in Federal Court representing criminal defendants on charges of possession of drugs, firearms, and fraudulent documents. I also worked on matters regarding asset forfeiture, successfully resolving a forfeiture return to my clients after two years of litigation. I handled two civil appellate level matters before the United States Court of Appeal in the Fourth Circuit.

- (b) State: Prior to taking the bench, I appeared regularly in summary, magistrate, family, and circuit court. Because of the level of litigation in Family Court, I would appear weekly to bi-weekly in Family Court. In Circuit Court, I routinely handled, no-jury matters, and motions, but those were not weekly occurrences. Our law firm policy required jury trial matters to have more than one attorney involved in the event of scheduling conflicts. Even when I was not the lead attorney on the case, I participated in discovery preparation, depositions, trial preparation, jury evaluation and jury selection jury evaluation.

13. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

- (a) civil: 25%
- (b) criminal: 20%
- (c) domestic: 50%

(d) other: Mediation and Guardian ad Litem work 5%

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years or in 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: 10% includes those matters that were settled prior to trial or during trial.
- (b) non-jury: 75%
- (c) other legal representation: 15%

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?

(a) Over time, my skills allowed me to serve as chief counsel, or share the duties equally with my law partners. In non-jury matters, my development in the practice of law allowed me to move quickly from associate counsel to chief counsel. On many matters, it was our law firm policy to share duties equally in trial.

15. 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. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

(a) Angelic Brown and Trojan Bell, Individually and as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Travone L. Bell, Decedent v. The City of North Charleston Police Department and Charleston County Sheriff's Office, 2006-CP-10-2996. This was a wrongful death survival action where a minor died in the custody of the Charleston County Sheriff's Office after he was arrested by the North Charleston Police Department. The minor had ingested cocaine during his arrest. Police pulled a bag of crack cocaine from the minor's mouth. Despite the ingestion, North Charleston Police Department failed to obtain medical attention for the minor. On the night he was booked at the Charleston County Detention Center the minor suffered a cardiac infarction. He never regained consciousness and died weeks later. The case went to trial in 2009, but the jury did not find gross negligence as required under the South Carolina Tort Claims Act. The case was important however, because the City of North Charleston changed its policies regarding the ingestion of narcotics and appropriate law enforcement response.

(b) Historic Charleston Properties, LLC v. Bennett Baker Strahan, 2011-CP-10-897. This is a case where my client, the Plaintiff entered into a Listing Agreement as the agent to sell a property of substantial value in downtown Charleston for the Defendant. In the event the Plaintiff secured a purchaser the Plaintiff would receive 3% of the purchase price. The Plaintiff secured a purchaser. The Defendant had failed to disclose that a lis pendens was placed on the property by the Executor of an Estate. The Plaintiff demanded that the lis pendens be removed. The Executor agreed to remove the lis pendens on the condition that the net proceeds of the sale would be held in escrow. The Defendant refused to agree to those conditions. During the course of negotiation, Defendant sold the property and the proceeds were

held in escrow in a matter between Defendant and the Executor. As a result I filed a Summons and Complaint, as well as a Complaint for a Temporary Restraining Order, and a Motion and Attachment for Injunction to protect the interests of the Plaintiff in those proceeds. The Circuit Court granted the Temporary Restraining Order and enjoined the Title Company, the Defendant and counsel from disposing of \$200,000.00 worth of funds in escrow, on the condition that Plaintiff post a bond. Within days the parties were able to enter into a settlement agreement.

- (c) John Koon, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Chavis Berley v. Ruby Deaton, 2011-CP-36-549. South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company v. Ruby Deaton, and John Koon, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Chavis Berley, 2011-CP-36-91. This was a wrongful death and survival action, which was resolved after successful litigation in a declaratory judgment action. The action was filed on behalf of the estate of minor who had died as a result of strangulation on playground equipment. The declaratory judgment action was filed on the grounds that the minor child was a resident relative of the Defendant, Ruby Deaton and therefore fell under an exclusion in the homeowner's policy. The issue of grandparent custody played a prominent role in the litigation. After a hearing on the matter, the Circuit Court determined that the minor child was not a resident relative and therefore, Farm Bureau's Declaratory Judgment action was denied. Subsequently, the parties were able to settle the wrongful death survival action in favor of the Estate.
- (d) United States of America v. James Robinson Bonding Company, No. 2011-6957, (4th Cir. May 24, 2012). This case began in the Federal District Court upon the United State's Motion to Estreat and Forfeit Bond. A defendant, HJS was arrested in South Carolina after allegedly attempting to export a boat to Lebanon in which he had hidden firearms and ammunition. HJS entered a plea of not guilty, and was granted bond. HJS was the father of a gravely ill infant in Michigan. The United States asked for detention, but the motion was denied. Our client the Surety (and Defendant captioned above) posted the bond on HJS's behalf in the amount of \$150,000.00. An indictment was filed in July 2010, and HJS appeared at his arraignment. He remained on the same bond. Days later, a Superseding Indictment was filed, adding two more counts. HJS did not appear for his arraignment but filed a waiver of appearance and entered a plea of not guilty, by way of his counsel. Our client was never notified of the Superseding Indictment. The Clerk of Court admitted that he failed to provide appropriate notice in contravention of the federal court rules. HJS fled the country to Lebanon. The United States move to Estreat the Bond. While the District Court found that the Surety had failed to receive notice, the Court did not discharge the Surety as required by law and estreated \$30,000.00 of the Bond to the United States. My brief challenged the District Court's decision. Because the government had violated the terms of the bond contract, the District Court should have set aside the forfeiture based upon Reese v. United States, 76 U.S. (9 Wall.) 13 (1869). The case was submitted to the United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit. The Fourth Circuit ordered mediation. At the mediation conference

the United States settled the case and returned 90% of the estreated proceeds. This was a particularly important case for forfeiture law at the time. We were able to remind the United States it must still follow the principles of contract law when dealing with Sureties.

- (e) Michael Ackerman v. Charleston County Sheriff's Office, 2014061957. This was a case which initially commenced with the fatal shooting of Charleston County Sheriff's Deputy Joseph Matuskovic. Deputy Michael Ackerman was on scene with Deputy Matuskovic when a suspect opened fire upon a group of Charleston County Sheriff's Deputies from within his apartment. Deputy Joseph Matuskovic was killed instantly. Deputy Ackerman was shot in the leg, but was able to return fire and ultimately killed the suspect. Aside from his physical condition, Deputy Ackerman began exhibiting signs of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. My initial involvement in this case commenced with the shooting incident itself. I was called to the Medical University of South Carolina by a law enforcement officer at the request of Deputy Ackerman. I had previously represented Deputy Ackerman as a witness in an investigation from the Department of Justice regarding an incident of misconduct within the Sheriff's Office. I responded to the hospital and assisted the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division in obtaining critical information regarding the suspect. At the time, it was not known that the suspect was deceased. Various SWAT team agents were waiting information regarding the scene before making entry into the apartment. Although my client was also under SLED investigation at this point, it was critical to cooperate as much as possible and provide as much information as possible to further protect officers about to make entry.

Subsequently it became clear that in addition to his physical wounds which were significant, Deputy Ackerman was suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Initially Deputy Ackerman was not inclined to file a Worker's Compensation Claim. However, when the Department denied payment of treatment for post traumatic stress disorder, my law firm filed an action before the Worker's Compensation Commission. The case was litigated, and we were prepared to provide expert testimony and challenge the standing law on post-traumatic stress disorder coverage for first responders. Ultimately, the case settled for a confidential amount. The issue as to whether standing law provides coverage for post traumatic stress disorder remains unclear.

16. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

- (a) Angelic Brown and Trojan Bell, Individually and as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Travone L. Bell, Decedent v. The City of North Charleston Police Department and Charleston County Sheriff's Office, Unpublished Opinion No. 2008-1937 (4th Cir. Jan. 15, 2010).

- (b) United States of America v. James Robinson Bonding Company, No. 2011-6957, (4th Cir. May 24, 2012). The case was settled at mediation, prior to the scheduling of Oral Argument. The case was not reported. I have provided my Brief as a writing sample.
17. List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.
- (a) None
18. 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.
- (a) I presently serve the State of South Carolina as a Family Court Judge. I was elected on February 3, 2016 and commenced my term on July 1, 2016. The jurisdiction of the family court is determined by statute. There are no jurisdictional amounts. On any given day the Family Court can handle simple divorces with little in the way of assets, or complex marital litigation with estates and businesses that are valued in the millions. The Family Court is also tasked with handling matters child custody, visitation and support; separate support and maintenance; matters regarding child abuse and neglect; juvenile delinquency; adoptions; name changes; corrections of birth certificates; matters regarding contempt, and vulnerable adult matters.
19. If the answer to question 18 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) Five significant orders:
- i. South Carolina Department of Social Services v. Richard Passio, et. al., 2016-DR-27-200 (Order on a Permanency Planning Hearing Trial April 20, 2017)
 - ii. Michael Thomas Rooke v. Meredith Kaufman, 2011-DR-10-3199. Order Denying Motion to Relinquish Jurisdiction. May 17, 2017.
 - iii. South Carolina Department of Social Services v Julia Timmons, 2008-DR-10-1845. Order from Defendant's Motion to Reduce Arrears. May 27, 2017.
 - iv. Jeffrey Haught v. Christiane Leggett, 2017-DR-10-2991. Order on Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration (Regarding Relocation and Custody of Minor Children). December 7, 2017.
 - v. Va'Keisha Page v. Ricardo Dontez Prizzie, Lamont Sanders, Jimmy Frazier, and Katie Page, 2016-DR-10-1370. (Final Order for Custody of Minor Children)

- (b) To my knowledge none of my orders, have reached appellate review with an opinion.
20. 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) State of South Carolina, 2003
 (b) United States District Court, District of South Carolina, 2005
 (c) United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, 2008
 (d) The United States Supreme Court, 2008
21. 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) I have lectured at the Charleston School of Law on the representation Spanish speaking clients, and the impact of the language barrier on representation. I also discussed the collateral consequences of criminal charges on immigration status.
 (b) I have lectured at the Charleston School of Law on the representation of clients in criminal matters.
 (c) On August 14, 2015 I lectured on Alternate Dispute Resolution Issues in Family Court at the Charleston County Bar Association Family Law Seminar on.
 (d) On October 24, 2016 I spoke at the Access to Justice Summit on Language Access on language access challenges.
 (e) On November 12, 2016 I along with other judges spoke to a group of students at the Charleston School of Law on the Color of Justice.
 (f) On January 21, 2017 I along with other Family Court Judges participated in “Hollywood Squares” a Family Court presentation for the South Carolina Bar.
 (g) On February 13, 2017 I participated in the Annual Horry County Family Court CLE.
 (h) On May 5, 2017 I led a panel of speakers as the moderator on the topic of Assisted Reproductive Technology at the American Bar Association Family Law Spring CLE Conference in Savannah, Georgia.
 (i) On March 2, 2018, I spoke to the South Carolina Task Force on Human Trafficking.
 (j) On April 24, 2018, I, along with two other Family Court judges led a training of Myrtle Beach Police Officers, Horry County Law Enforcement Officers, Department of Juvenile Justice stakeholders, Department of Social Services stakeholder, Assistant Solicitors and other system stakeholders on the issue of domestic child sex trafficking which we titled “Stay or Go.”
 (k) On May 2, 2018 I spoke to the South Carolina Department of Social Services Region 3 on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking.
 (l) On July 20, 2018, I am scheduled to speak in collaboration with other partners on the issue of Human Trafficking the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking.
 (m) On August 17, 2018, I am scheduled to speak at the 2017 Family Law Essentials regarding Contempt Hearings and Advice from the Bench.

- (n) In October of 2018, I am scheduled to speak on the issue of Domestic Child Sex Trafficking in Greenville, South Carolina.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.

Please see the attached report from the Commission for Continuing Legal Education

23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (a) Michèle Patrão Forsythe, Lady Luck Smiles on Environmentalists in Mississippi, 9 S.C. Env'tl. L.J. 231 (Spring 2002)

24. Please furnish as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary author, to include a description of the other authors and their contributions. The writing samples are for the Commission's use only and will not be published. (If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable.)

Please see attached. I have submitted two briefs and two orders. I am the primary author of all the material I have provided. I give my law partner O. Grady Query credit in editing my brief to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. While Mr. Query's name is listed above mine in the second brief submitted; I am the author of that brief, and my signature is affixed to the Brief. I represented our client at the Motion Hearing, and was solely responsible for that portion of the case. In addition, I have provided two Orders which are solely my work.

25. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

Prior to becoming a member of the judiciary, my last known rankings were the following

- (a) Super Lawyer Rising Star, 2013
(b) AVVO Rating 9.3/10 prior to my election in 2016.
26. 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) The James L. Petigru American Inn of Court 2009-present
(b) The James L. Petigru American Inn of Court Executive Committee 2009-2015
(c) The James L. Petigru American Inn of Court Secretary 2009-2015

- (d) Berkeley County Bar Association 2010-2013
- (e) Charleston County Bar Association 2004 to present
- (f) Charleston County Bar Association Executive Committee 2013-2016
- (g) Charleston County Bar Association CLE Co-Chair 2013-2016
- (h) Charleston School of Law Moot Court Volunteer 2009-2010
- (i) South Carolina Association for Justice, Member 2003-2016
- (j) South Carolina Bar, Member 2003-present
- (k) South Carolina Bar Resolution of Fee Disputes Board Ninth Circuit 2012-present
- (l) South Carolina Bar House of Delegates 2010-2014, 2015 to present
- (m) South Carolina Bar Civil Practice and Procedure Committee 2014
- (n) South Carolina Bar Lawyer Wellness Committee 2014, 2015
- (o) South Carolina Bar Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee 2015
- (p) South Carolina Bar Future of the Profession Committee 2015
- (q) South Carolina Bar Ask-A-Lawyer Volunteer 2013-2014
- (r) South Carolina Bar Mock Trial Judge for Moultrie Middle School 2014
- (s) South Carolina Bar Mock Trial Judge, 2018
- (t) The Supreme Court Lawyer Mentoring Program 2014 to present
- (u) The South Carolina Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission Language Access Task Force Chair 2016-2017.
- (v) The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges 2016 to present.
- (w) The Family Court Bench Bar Committee 2018

27. 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.

No. I have always filed my State Ethics Commission report on a timely basis. I was never subject to a penalty.

28. For sitting or former judges, 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 no other employment other than my service as a Family Court Judge.

29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.

No.

30. 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.

Yes. Please see below.

(a) Intelligence Analyst

A clandestine agency with the Department of Defense 1996-1998

I was recruited by the Department of Defense in the Winter of 1995 to work for a clandestine agency. During a nine month time frame, I was interviewed, investigated, and tested for my position. In November 1996, I was hired by the Department of Defense to work as an intelligence analyst for the agency, and was given a top secret security clearance. Over time, I was read into other special intelligence clearances. Much of the work I performed in those two years remains classified. I can disclose that I was awarded several commendations for my writing and analysis of issues in the United States Presidential Daily Brief. I have no authority to disclose other details of my work history or assignments.

(b) The United States Senate 1996

United States Senator Paul Sarbanes, Maryland

I worked for Senator Sarbanes as an Intern in 1995 through Spring of 1996. Prior to my graduation from college, the Senator hired me to serve as a second administrative assistant. I commenced my duties upon graduation. My duties included maintaining the Senator's calendar; coordinating the Senator's engagements with the Senator's Press Secretary and Chief of Staff; corresponding with certain constituency groups on the Senator's behalf; providing additional follow-up constituent services; drafting letters for the Senator's signature; and coordinating the delivery of the Senator's briefing materials.

31. 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.

(a) I am a member of Cutters, LLC. This limited liability company holds a lease interest in first floor units 101 and 102 at The Wappoo Centre 147 Wappoo Creek Drive, Suite 202, Charleston, South Carolina. This company also owns Units 201, 202, and 203 of the second floor of The Wappoo Centre, 147 Wappoo Creek Drive, Suite 202. This limited liability company is the lessor to several law firms, there are tenants located in those units. Because of the nature of my work on the bench, I am not privy to any lease information. My partners have insured that I have no dealings which could cause a conflict of interest. Because they are lawyers who could appear before me, I am recused from cases in which they are associated.

32. 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.

33. 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.

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

A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.

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

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.

No.

35. 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.

36. 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.

37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years.

My husband, Charles Robert Forsythe donated to the South Carolina Senate election campaign of Sandy Senn in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) in 2017. In the capacity of a law enforcement officer, my husband has known Senator Senn for many years prior to her becoming a candidate for the South Carolina Senate. I was not informed of this campaign donation. Money used for this campaign donation did not come from a joint account.

38. 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.

39. 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 or currently hold. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.

- (a) As a result of my partnership in my private law practice, I have many potential conflicts of interest. In order to resolve the ethical dilemma, I have created a recusal list which I have provided to the Clerk's office in the Family Court. I would use the same list in the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions. Any potential conflicts of interest would result in my recusal of the matter.

40. 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.

N/A

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.

N/A

41. 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.

N/A

42. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.

A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission, with an attached brokerage record.

43. For sitting judges, 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.

44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office?

No.

45. 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 which are subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

[All answers have been received and considered by the Commission, and as noted above, any expunged matters are redacted from the record.]

46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.

No.

47. Have you ever been sued by a client? Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.

- (a) Fee Dispute, Client, July 1, 2011—The Assigned Member conducted an investigation and determined that the attorney fee was earned. I believe the Complainant appealed the decision to the Chair. The Chair determined the attorney fee was earned and closed the case.
- (b) Fee Dispute, Client, April 29, 2013—The Assigned Member conducted an investigation and determined that the attorney fee was earned. The case was closed.
- (c) Fee Dispute, Client, May 27, 2015—The Assigned Member conducted an investigation and determined that an accounting error was made in the amount of Sixty Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$62.50). The Assigned Member determined the remainder of the fee was earned. My law firm delivered a check to the Client in the amount determined by the Assigned Member. Client appealed the decision to the Fee Dispute Panel. The Panel dismissed the appeal, and the case was closed.
- (d) Lawsuit, Small Claims Court. Stephen Albenesius v. Robert and Michele Forsythe 2016-CV-10-10601120, Filed on December 6, 2016 and Closed on August 30, 2017—The Plaintiff was a tenant of 55 West Second Street, a property managed by Exit Realty on Folly Beach. The property is owned by my parents, Joseph and Maria Lilia Patrao. English is my Father’s fifth language—and not his best. My father often uses me to convey his desires to his property management company. Based upon my father’s instructions and in conjunction with Exit Realty, the tenant was evicted from the property for failure to pay rent and destruction of the premises. The tenant sued my husband and I, alleging we were the property owners. We were not the owners of the property. The case was subsequently dismissed by agreement of the parties. No payments were made by Plaintiff or Defendant.

48. 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.

N/A

49. 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. Include any and all confidential and public sanction, discipline, or finding of misconduct of any kind.

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

50. 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.

Note: The flash drive with your application materials contains (1) Section 2-19-70(c); (2) JMSC 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.

51. 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? 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.

52. 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? Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative.
- a. No, I have not requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on my behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released.
 - b. I have asked no one to campaign on my behalf.
 - c. There is no one whom I know that has campaigned on my behalf.

53. 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.

54. 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.

55. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons 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) Kristy Danford
Project Director
Charleston County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
3831 Leeds Avenue
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405
843.529.7307

(b) Dr. Elizabeth B. Flynn, Pharm.D.
243 Ashley Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403
843.568.1463

(c) O. Grady Query, Esquire
The Wappoo Centre
147 Wappoo Creek Drive
Suite 202
Charleston, South Carolina 29412
843.795.9500

(d) Paul R. Thurmond, Esquire
15 Middle Atlantic Wharf
Suite 101
Charleston, South Carolina 29401
843.937.8000

(e) Geiza Vargas-Vargas, Esquire
Liberty Center
151 Meeting Street
Suite 600
Charleston, South Carolina 29401
843.534.4313

56. 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?

- a. Yes, I am active on social media to include, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, LinkedIn, and Twitter.
- b. I am mindful of my interactions on social media. The National Judicial College suggests that judges remain connected to social media, but in a limited way. Many judges in South Carolina are active on social media.

- c. I do not use social media for any other purpose other than to communicate with family and friends. I may be connected with attorneys and other judges on social media, but I do not post information about my position. I do not discuss my work on social media. Other than being listed as a working of the South Carolina Judicial Department on Facebook, there is no reference to my work.
 - d. I am aware that people often post pictures of their children with me after adoption proceedings. To my knowledge, I am not tagged in those photographs, but I am featured prominently in those photographs. I am aware that this happens to many Family Court Judges, as this is a momentous event which people often share.
57. 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. James L. Petigru Inn of Court 2009-present
 - b. James L. Petigru Inn of Court, Inn Secretary, 2009-2015
 - c. James L. Petigru Inn of Court Outstanding Service Award 2015
 - d. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Member 2014-present
 - e. Lawyer's Committee on Children's Rights 2010-2016
 - f. Special Olympics Volunteer 2004, 2013
 - g. YES Carolina Volunteer 2013

58. 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.

As a child of immigrant parents, I understood early on how fortunate I was to live in America. I was raised in a blue collar neighborhood, right outside of Washington, D.C. In my work prior to law school, I saw the challenges to our freedom from a unique position within government. It was a catalyst for me. It gave me a greater appreciation for our American heritage, and the deeply imbedded legal principles which are a essential to our democracy.

There are no words that I can use to describe how grateful I am to have been able to have the opportunities in my life to learn, grow, and serve my country. Service requires energy, patience, commitment, knowledge, and compassion. As a lawyer, I worked hard to bring these values to the profession of law. But, I felt a stronger calling to serve my state several years ago. Following that calling I ran for the Family Court.

Development as a judge requires a continued commitment to service, and dedication to education and professional development. For over two years, I have had the opportunity to learn and work with other judges, and judicial organizations that have taught me the value of leadership on the bench. I continue to be honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as

a judge in South Carolina. The opportunity to serve on the Circuit Court would allow me to use the skills I have learned in private practice, and on the bench from day one.

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 ____ day of _____, 2018.

(Notary Signature)

(Notary Printed Name)
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: _____