



**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Administrative Law Court, Seat 1

1. Name: The Honorable Thomas Rosamond Smith

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

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

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: 1801 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): N/A  
(office): (803) 898-2658  
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED], 1957  
Place of Birth: Orangeburg, SC  
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes.  
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes.

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

5. Have you served in the military? NO. 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.

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.

Single. Never divorced. No children.

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.

USC – Received B.S. In Business Administration (1975-1979)

USC Law – Received J.D. (1998-2001)

National Judicial College at the University of Nevada – 2014 to present. Working to obtain Masters in Judicial Studies.

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.

USC Mock Trial Team (2000-2001)

Judicial Internship (2000)

Federal Litigation Clinic (2000) – Participation in Federal discrimination case for indigent individual.

Sports & Entertainment Law Club – Treasurer (1999-2001)

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.

South Carolina – 2001 (One time).

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.

- The Honorable John Breeden, Jr. - At Large Circuit Court Judge – Law Clerk (2002)

- Law Office of Thomas Smith – Attorney. General practice. (2002-2004)

- Vaux & Marshner – Attorney. Estate planning, probate, & small file litigation. (2004-2006)

- Community Title Insurance Services – Attorney/Consultant for real estate. (2006-2008)

- Atlantic Coast Disability Advocates – Attorney. Disability & Admin Law. (2009-2013)

- SC Dept of Health & Human Services – Hearing Officer for Medicaid & nursing home cases. (2013 to present.)

**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:

(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 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.

(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 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.

N/A.

(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.

For the past five years, I have been a Hearing Officer for the SC Department of Health & Human Services. Examples of the administrative law cases we hear are: Medicaid eligibility, appeals by hospitals and doctors for reimbursement, appeals for proper medication and treatment, appeals filed on behalf of disabled children and adults, appeals by providers for overpayment claims, nursing home transfer or discharge cases, endangerment to others or self and appeals of audits. There are a multitude of other types of cases. This is a list of the most common.

We follow the guidelines of the S.C. Administrative Procedures Act, S.C. Code of Laws, Medicaid regulations, Code of Federal Regulations for disability, and Code of Federal Regulations for nursing homes.

Over the past five years, I have handled well over 500 appeals of which approximately 10% go to hearing. Most of the litigants who appear before me are Pro Se. The percentages float over time, but a rough estimate is 60 to 70% of the cases I hear involve a Pro Se litigant.

After the hearing, I issue a Final Administrative Decision. That decision is subject to appeal to a higher court (Admin. Law Court). All of my decisions are available for review.

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: 90%
  - (b) state: 10%
  
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: 9%
  - (b) criminal: 0%
  - (c) domestic: 1%
  - (d) other: 90%
  
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: 0%
  - (b) non-jury: 100%

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

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) B.N. v. Commissioner of SSA – Not reported. First attorney for client was not diligent and failed to file proper paperwork and failed to research the applicable law. Client lost first case. Client's husband tried to handle the case himself. He was outmaneuvered by large law firm. I was asked to help. I researched and reviewed the lengthy case. Found some flaws. We went to hearing. The Judge awarded my client everything we asked for. In addition, after a motion for reconsideration of the first case, the Judge awarded my client the benefits she should have received except for the incompetence of her first attorney, despite the first case being closed. Later, my Client informed me that she was able to smile for the first time in many years as she did not have to worry about providing for her children. (For the record, my client's first attorney was later disbarred.)

(b) M.P. v. Commissioner of SSA – Not reported. Client applied for disability and hired an attorney. The attorney lost the case. Client re-applied for disability and hired someone to represent her. This person lost the case. Later, Client found out the second person was not an attorney. Both previous representatives told her she was a “bad witness” and that is why they lost the case. I was asked to help. I researched and reviewed the case. I found the Client to be a credible witness and worked with her on her presentation and confidence. We went to hearing and received an immediate Bench Decision, Fully Favorable with retroactive benefits. After many years of suffering and hearing negative comments about herself, my Client was overcome with emotion.

(c) A.S. v. Commissioner of SSA – Not reported. Mentally disabled individual with an extremely low I.Q. Received a technical denial for disability because his school records were unavailable. Client had attended school during the “separate but equal” era. Petitioned higher court and won remand. On remand, Client was award benefits going forward. Family members who had taken care of this individual all these years were very grateful.

(d) In Re: A.A. (a minor child) – Not reported. SCDSS case out of Horry County, S.C. In this case, I was appointed the guardian ad litem for a child who had suffered from sexual abuse from one of her mother's boyfriends. The child had been placed with her grandmother. SCDSS made a motion to reunite this girl with her mother despite the fact that the mother's boyfriend (the alleged offender) was still in the picture, the mother did not have a steady job, and did not have a telephone in case of emergencies. Unbelievably, SCDSS had not done any investigation or background on this case. I confirmed the medical diagnosis of sexual abuse, conferred with school teacher who stated the child's grades had soared after she was place with the grandmother, and I made a home visit with the child and her grandmother. During the visit, the child expressed her desire to continue to stay with her grandmother. I wrote a detailed report and submitted it to the Judge. When SCDSS protested and insisted on the reunification of the child and mother, I appeared in court to testify to my findings. The Judge allowed the child to remain in custody of the grandmother.

(e) In the Matter of L.B. - Not reported. Unusual probate case out of Beaufort County, S.C.. Client married to two women and engaged to a third. At his wake, the three women realized what was going on. Fireworks ensued. All three women refused to bury client. I represented the estate and worked in conjunction with another firm to obtain some Federal

funds for his work under the old Public Works Administration Act. Ensured the estate, and his heirs, were properly taken care of. (Interestingly, after the news of the Federal award, all three women expressed their love for the man and wanted to claim the body.)

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)
  - (b) N/A
  - (c)
  - (d)
  - (e)
  
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)
  - (b) N/A
  - (c)
  - (d)
  - (e)
  
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.

Yes, as a Hearing Officer for SCDHHS. From 2013 to present. I was hired by the Agency. This is a Court of original jurisdiction for an Administrative Law hearing.

Examples of the administrative law cases we hear are: Medicaid eligibility, appeals by hospitals and doctors for reimbursement, appeals for proper medication and treatment, appeals filed on behalf of disabled children and adults, appeals by providers for overpayment claims, nursing home transfer or discharge cases, endangerment to others or self and appeals of audits. There are a multitude of other types of cases. This is a list of the most common.

We follow the guidelines of the S.C. Administrative Procedures Act, S.C. Code of Laws, Medicaid regulations, Code of Federal Regulations for disability, and Code of Federal Regulations for nursing homes.

After the hearing, I issue a Final Administrative Decision. That decision is subject to appeal to a higher court. (The Administrative Law Court).

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) M.J. v. SCDHHS, 17-ALJ-08-0108-AP – TEFRA Disability case. Affirmed by ALC. Petitioner wanted aqua therapy in addition to tradition physical therapy. After a hearing on the merits, I decided in favor of Agency that the child did not meet the Federal definition of disability to qualify for TEFRA. Petitioner appealed to ALC claiming that I failed to analyze all of the physicians' reports, and everything to make an accurate decision. The ALJ affirmed my decision citing my well thought out reasoning and references to the record.

Quoting a portion of the ALJ's decision regarding my analysis, “This is evidenced by the very pointed questions he asked of Appellant's parents and therapist, in particular, questions about conflicting medical records, and records that differed from testimony. Also, the Hearing Officer's decision contained specific references to information contained in these materials.”

(b) Pee Dee Health Care v. SCDHHS, 16-ALJ-08-0047-AP – Program integrity case. Affirmed by ALC. After a hearing on the merits, the Respondent (Agency) withdrew its claim of an overpayment. My decision to dismiss the appeal, denying the Petitioner's request for a supplemental hearing, denying the request to hold the dismissal in abeyance pending outcomes in other jurisdictions, and my assertion the Petitioner did not understand or misinterpreted the meaning of “De Novo” was upheld.

(c) J.C. v. SCDHHS, 14-0942 – Medically complex and fragile child case. This case involved a child who could not function at any level and was receiving a multitude of services. Respondent (Agency) greatly reduced those services when the child reached age 18. I ruled against the Agency for failing to adequately take into consideration the early and periodic, screening, diagnostic, and testing (EPSDT) regulations. I also admonished the Agency for its poorly structured notice to the parents. Not appealed by agency.

(d) Jamison Consultants v. SCDHHS, 12-PA-014 – Complex program integrity case. This case was pending for over three years. I was asked to take over. Put parties on notice and under a scheduling order. Settlement was reached within five months.

(e) Center for Women's Health v. SCDHHS, 11-PA-065 – Program integrity case. In this case, a physician failed to repay monies owed under a repayment agreement. Case was pending for over three and one half years. I was asked to take over. Put parties on notice and scheduled a hearing. The case was resolved in less than two months without going to hearing.

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.

SC Courts – 2001.

SSA Administrative Hearings – 2003.

Federal District of SC – 2006.

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.

N/A

22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.

Attached. Electronic copy of 2018 not posted by Commission on CLE's.

23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. N/A

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.)

Attached are two of my decisions.

(a) Decision on Motion for Reconsideration & Motion to Consolidate (11-PA-047)

(b) Final Administrative Decision – MJ v. SCDHHS (16-1445)

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. N/A

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) SC Bar – Member.

(b) NAHO (National Association of Hearing Officers) – Member.

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.

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.

- SCDHHS Hearing Officer – Fulltime. (2013 to present).

- SSA Practice - Wind down. (2013-2017).



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.

Auditor – Review records for accuracy, propriety, internal controls, and separation of duties. Employed by SCDSS (1979-1990). First Citizens Bank (1991-1993).

Compliance Manager – Wrote contracts and reviewed budgets and financial records for compliance with Federal grants. Employed by United Way of SC (1994-1997).

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. NO.
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.)

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

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

34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? NO. Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? NO. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? NO. If so, give details.
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? N/A
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. NONE.
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. NONE.
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.

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. See Printout.

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. N/A
44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office? N/A.
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.  
Yes. 1974. Arrested for petty larceny. Charges dropped.
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? NO. Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? NO. If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.
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.  
  
Yes, I have a tail policy. Took effect in 2017.
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. NO.
50. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? NO. If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? NO. If so, give the details.

**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. NO.
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? I reviewed the rule after receiving this packet.
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) Robert French, PO Box 8206, Columbia, SC 29202, (803) 413-3725.
  - (b) William Proctor, 2207 Front Street, Beaufort, NC 28516, (252) 422-4822.
  - (c) Philip Jamieson, 242 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, SC 29730, (803) 366-0405.
  - (d) Nicholas Skorzewski, PO Box 1473, Columbia, SC 29202, (803) 391-2486.
  - (e) Ted Shields, 7436 Balintoy Lane, Matthews, NC 28104, (704) 773-3734.
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.? NO. 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? N/A.

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)
  - (b) None.
  - (c)
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.

I come from humble beginnings. Any success I may have achieved started with a family who was supportive and believed in me. Probably, long before I believed in myself. A part of that belief system was that honesty, integrity, and loyalty were characteristics to admire. Another important belief was that hard work and perseverance would bring success.

Success was measured in terms other than pecuniary gain. In my home, a successful person is one who is loved and cherished by their family, admired or respected by their peers, welcomed by their neighbors, adored by their friends, makes strangers feel at ease, sets a higher standard for themselves, provides a role model for younger people, and helps pave the way for those who may follow.

One of the ways I have continued to grow in the judicial profession is by taking courses from the National Judicial College (NJC) at the University of Nevada at Reno. The NJC is the premier organization in the United States to train and develop Judges. I am taking courses in the Master's in Judicial Studies program. My goal is to obtain a Master's degree or Professional Certificate in Judicial Studies. The courses are outstanding and the instructors are a who's who in the legal field. Here is a list of the courses I have completed:

(a) Admin Law – Fair Hearing – Intense two week course on administrative law. Premier course on administrative law in the country. In many Federal agencies, this is a required course for any new Administrative Law Judge. (Completed in 2014).

(b) Decision Making – One week course on making and writing better judicial decisions. Encouraged logical decisions based on, and referenced to, the record. Discouraged the use of legalese. (Completed in 2015).

(c) Enhancing Judicial Bench Skills – One week course on the skills and characteristics needed to be a successful judge. (Completed in 2016).

(d) Conducting the Trial – One week course on successfully conducting a legal proceeding. Included advice on handling difficult litigants or attorneys. (Completed in 2017).

(e) Judicial Ethics – Multiple week online course on judicial ethics and reform. Looked into the ABA model as a guide. (Completed in 2017).

(f) Evidence in a Courtroom Setting – One week course focusing on the rules of evidence including relevance, hearsay, lay and expert witnesses, admissibility, and exceptions. (Completed in 2018).

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 July, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Signature)

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