

STATE REGULATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

**CANDIDATES FOR THE
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
EDITED PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

NOTICE: The information requested herein is needed to assist the Committee in its investigation of candidates for the Public Service Commission. This questionnaire is the initial step in the investigation of your candidacy. A completed questionnaire should be returned to the Committee as soon as possible, but in any event no later than noon, 12:00 p.m., on Monday, March 5, 2018. (Use and attach separate sheets, if necessary.)

PLEASE SPECIFY THE SEAT FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING (THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN WHICH YOU RESIDE): Sixth Congressional District

1. Full Name: **Mr. Justin Thomas Williams**

Home Address: **122 Emerald Lake Road
Columbia, SC 29209**

Business Address: **1700 Sunset Boulevard
West Columbia, SC 29169**

6. List each institution of higher learning you attended, including dates of attendance and degrees awarded. Please provide an official transcript prior to your screening hearing. If you left any institution without receiving a degree, state the reason for leaving.

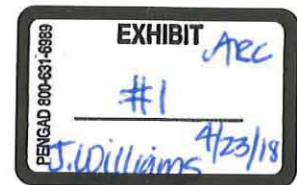
1. **University of South Carolina**
a. **August 2002 – May 2006**
b. **Bachelors of Arts in Public Relations**

2. **University of South Carolina School of Law**
a. **August 2007 – May 2010**
b. **Juris Doctorate**

3. **The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School**
a. **February 2015 – May 2015**
b. **Judge Advocate Officer's Basic Course Diploma**

7. List any continuing education courses or other professional education or training programs that you have attended in the past five years.

1. **October 2013: South Carolina Educational Conference on Workers' Compensation & Workers' Comp Academy.**



2. **October 2014: South Carolina Educational Conference on Workers' Compensation & Workers' Comp Academy.**
3. **September 2015: South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination Annual Solicitor's Conference.**
4. **October 2015: Army Ethics Counselor's Course**
5. **February 2016: Army Judge Advocate Southeast Regional Annual Training**
6. **May 2016: Army Judge Advocate Tactical Staff Officer's Course**
7. **September 2016: South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination Annual Solicitor's Conference.**
8. **October 2016: Army Legal Assistance Course**
9. **August 2017: South Carolina Association for Justice Annual Conference**
10. **October 2017: Army Judge Advocate Officer Advance Course Phase I**
11. **February 2018: Army Judge Advocate Southeast Regional Annual Training**

8. Have you been employed or held any position in any of the following areas?

- (a) energy issues
- (b) telecommunications issues
- (c) consumer protection and advocacy issues
- (d) water and wastewater issues
- (e) finance, economics, and statistics
- (f) accounting
- (g) engineering
- (h) law

Please provide the duration of your employment or service and details about the nature of the work or the position.

Consumer Protection: As a prosecutor, Army Judge Advocate, and civilian attorney I have addressed consumer law issues that include, but are not limited to cable bill disputes, healthcare bill disputes, home owner association disputes, landlord tenant disputes, student loan disputes, and timeshare disputes.

Law: I have practiced law since May 2011. My experience includes criminal prosecution as an assistant solicitor in the Fifth Circuit Solicitor's Office, workers' compensation defense as an association at Willson Jones Carter and Baxley law firm, military law as an Army Judge Advocate, and civil litigation and criminal defense as an associate with Moore Taylor law firm.

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

Answer: Yes – United States Army Reserve Judge Advocate – Captain – currently serving

10. Have you ever held public office?

Answer: No.

11. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?

Answer: No.

12. Please list in chronological order any employment of you by any governmental agency (whether full time or part time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise). Provide dates of employment, name of employer, name of supervisor, and major job responsibilities.

South Carolina Senate (part-time)

Senate Page

Columbia, SC

January 2003 – March 2005

Supervisor: Jane Fallaw

Duties:

- Assisted with Senator Seztler’s weekly mailing of legislative updates to key constituents;
- Updated Senator Hutto’s contacts notebook of local government officials and key constituents;
- Delivered materials and messages within the Capital complex;
- Answered phones and took messages;
- Worked the Senate Chambers during session.

Fifth Judicial Circuit Solicitor’s Office

Columbia, SC

February 2011 – August 2013

June 15, 2015 – December 31, 2016

Supervisor: April Sampson

Duties:

- Mentored junior attorneys and helped them prepare for trial;
- Spoke at various community events regarding crime, prosecution, and the role of the Solicitor’s Office on behalf of Solicitor Dan Johnson;

- Evaluated cases for prosecutorial merit, determine the appropriateness of charges, and preparing indictments for the grand jury;
- Conducted legal research on criminal elements and evidentiary issues of law, working with law enforcement to prepare cases for trial, interviewing witnesses in preparation for trial, gathering evidence, and using sound judgment to determine whether to offer a plea bargain;
- Wrote motions, briefs, prosecution memos, and other litigation documents for hearings and trials;
- Gathered, presented, and entered evidence into the record during motions, hearings, and trials;
- Represented the interest of the State in hearings, plea bargains, and trials;
- Negotiated plea bargains with defense counsel based of the facts, evidence, and relevant law on a case by case basis;
- Used digital courtroom technology during jury and bench trials;
- Managed 200 – 300 cases to ensure disposition deadlines were met and records were accurate and up-to-date in a high pressure fast paced environment;
- Managed and responded to traditional discovery and e-discovery requests with discovery management software during the criminal litigation process;
- Conducted legal research using Westlaw;
- Wrote prosecution memos that presented case facts, evidence, and relevant law to support case disposition decisions;
- Reviewed complex investigations and cases for legal sufficiency in preparation for trail;
- Worked with other government agencies, attorneys, and members of the public by providing them with information on community concerns, questions of law, and office procedure and policy;
- Appointed special counsel for dog fighting and arson cased in the 5th Judicial Circuit;
- Qualified a Richland County firefighter as an expert in fire origin and cause by strategically presenting the firefighter’s work experience in a manner to overcome expert qualification objections by the defense counsel during trial;
- Wrote and argued motions to revoke the bond of defendants who were accused of violent crimes and violating the conditions of their bond.

**United States Army Reserve
12th Legal Operations Detachment
Fort Gordon and Fort Jackson
Judge Advocate
December 9, 2014 – present
Supervisor: Major Bill Terry**

Duties:

LEGAL ASSISTANCE: Provide legal assistance on to service members, spouses of service

members, and family members during Battle Assembly. Provide legal assistance with respect to the following legal matters: wills, powers of attorney, living wills and health care directives, notary services, dependent care plans, casualty affairs (death incident to the performance of military duty), employment problems arising from the performance of military duty and subject to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, landlord-tenant issues, tax issues, Service members Civil Relief Act issues, family law issues, debt and consumer law issues, general contract review, and other legal issues within the realm of legal assistance as they arise.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW: Provide legal counsel to Commander and staff on interpretation of federal statutes and regulations, ensure that legal advice, consultation, and collaboration is furnished in a timely manner. Advises senior leadership of the alternatives and possible solutions which are legally permissible or desirable. Prepare, research, and issue oral and written legal opinions and legal advice with regard to a wide variety of laws, regulations, instructions, directives and policies in the area of Administrative Law to include financial liability investigation of property loss, line-of-duty determinations, formal and informal investigations and commanders' inquiries, legal sufficiency reviews, Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity (EO/EEO) investigations, fiscal law, and unfavorable personnel actions. Serve as enlisted separation board and officer board of inquiry recorder.

MILITARY JUSTICE: Support Fort Gordon's Military Justice Department on an as needed basis. Review case evidence and provide opinion regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the evidence. Draft prosecution memorandum, non-prosecution memorandum, and MRE 513 Motion.

13. Please list in chronological order any occupation, business, or profession in which you have been engaged or employed (other than serving in a public office or being employed by a governmental agency). Please briefly note the nature of your work during each period.

Pfizer, Inc.

Pfizer Healthcare Representative (Inroads Intern)

Columbia, SC

May 2004 – August 2004

December 2004

May 2005 – August 2005

Supervisor: Gary Todd

Duties:

- Developed strategic plan of action and effectively executed plan to increase customer product use;
- Utilized reporting tools to monitor, track, analyze, and record customer data trends;
- Maintained current knowledge of Pfizer's programs, initiatives, and pharmaceutical sales industry's regulations, policies, and protocol to maintain compliance.

Pfizer, Inc.

Healthcare Representative

McDonough, GA

May 2006 – August 2007

Supervisor: Patrick Kennedy

Duties:

- Made 10 – 12 sales calls per day with physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and practice managers;
- Developed strategic sales call plan and successfully executed plan to increase territory sales;
- Utilized reporting tools to monitor, track, analyze, and record customer data trends to address customer needs;
- Maintained current knowledge of Pfizer's programs, initiatives, and pharmaceutical sales industry's regulations, policies, and protocol to remain compliant with all industry regulations and standards;
- Conducted quarterly risk assessment and prepared territory objectives report for delivery to District Manager;
- Served as the lead person for quarterly territory strategic planning and developing territory objective plan;
- Developed and managed a database that monitors recurring customer consultation meetings and customer performance;
- Maintained sales program and sales goals filing system by establishing a protocol for pre-sales consultation meeting to effectively utilize the customer sales data;
- Worked with minimal guidance and supervision to implement territory sales objectives;
- Worked with leadership to keep them current on territory office policies and trends, conducted new sales team member training, and made recommendations for the implementation of new management procedures for improved territory effectiveness.
- Coordinated joint team meetings for territory process reviews and update territory call cycle plan.

Collins & Lacy, P.A.

Columbia, SC United States

May 2008 – April 2010

Supervisors: Eric Fosmire and Charles Appleby

Duties:

- Completed extensive legal research using a complex internet based legal research database for supervising attorneys in a timely manner with little guidance;
- Drafted legal memoranda, deposition reports, litigation plans, municipal ordinances, complaints, answers, exposure analysis, and medical history reports for supervising attorneys in a timely manner with little guidance;
- Evaluated and analyzed case law, statutes, national policies/procedure, and proposed legislation to identify issues that could potentially impact the firm's clients, and to find solutions to those issues;

- Developed several very technical PowerPoint presentations that outlined the Family Medical Leave Act, Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act;
 - Developed Microsoft Word document outlining the immigration laws in several states;
 - Conducted legal research, interpreted, and wrote memoranda on 49 Code of Federal Regulations concerning the safety requirement for commercial motor vehicles;
 - Developed Microsoft Word document outlining state laws regulating employers performing employee background checks;
 - Assessed insurance companies' potential risk of exposure on workers' compensation claims by evaluating and analyzing the claimants' work history, wage history, alleged injuries, medical records, and the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Statute via a computerized data management system;
 - Conducted extensive independent legal research projects related to data and information concerning office case files on a web based research database;
 - Reviewed the office law clerk employment manual and made recommendations for the implementation of new management procedures for improved organizational effectiveness;
 - Gathered, organized, evaluated, and analyzed workers' compensation case files information on a computerized database in order to create a strategic plan for litigating the case files.
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Pfizer, Inc.

Government Affairs and Public Policy Intern

Washington, DC United States

May 2009 – July 2009

Supervisor: Melissa Bishop-Murphy

Duties:

- Monitored local, state, and federal legislation that could potentially impact Pfizer products;
- Managed the revision and update of internal database of state lobbying and gift rules using web based data management system;
- Facilitated and conducted meetings with Washington, DC Council office staff and grassroots healthcare organizations;
- Attended Washington, DC Council meetings and hearings and grassroots healthcare organization meetings;
- Identified grassroots healthcare organizations with goals and initiatives congruent to Pfizer's in an effort to facilitated strategic partnerships;
- Trained new members of the government affairs and policy intern team.
- Completed the update and revision of the internal lobbying and gift rules handbook one week ahead of schedule using a web based data management system.
- Made formal presentation to office leaders during the weekly executive staff meeting regarding the potential impact of proposed legislation to Pfizer products and business model.
- Served as intern team leader and coordinated the intern's duties at a health fair sponsored by Pfizer on Capitol Hill.

- Drafted “one pager” that analyzed, evaluated, and reviewed the negative impact a proposed bill would have on Washington, DC Councilmember’s constituents and their communities.
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Columbia Urban League

Columbia, SC

Special Projects Coordinator

August 2010 – February 2011

Supervisor: J.T. McLawhorn

Duties:

- Wrote complaint letters to the appropriate authorities regarding civil rights violations against the elderly by doctors and hospitals;
 - Researched local community and political issues such as the penny tax increase, minority health and wellness trends, and employment trends in order to keep the Communications Director abreast of emerging issues and trends;
 - Researched the marketing, advertising, and business practices of private student loan companies and private colleges and universities in an effort to determine if minorities and veterans were disproportionately targeted to receive their services;
 - Managed grant writing efforts to ensure the Columbia Urban complied with each grant’s staffing and programming requirements;
 - Drafted by-laws for a young professional auxiliary group focused on recruiting young professionals to support the mission of the Columbia Urban League;
 - Drafted resolutions honoring deserving members of the community who greatly contributed to empowering members of the underserved community;
 - Researched questions of law for the President and CEO of the Columbia Urban League regarding civil rights, health care, employment, and consumer law by conducting legal research on Westlaw’s online research database;
 - Drafted short, clear, and concise legal memoranda on questions of law regarding civil rights, health care, employment, and consumer law to assist the President and CEO of the Columbia Urban League in creating programs to empower members of the underserved community;
 - Established and maintained effective working relationships with key community stakeholders and local community leaders.
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Willson Jones Carter & Baxley, P.A.

Associate

August 2013 – June 2015

Supervisor: Shannon Poteat

Duties:

- Defended employers against workers’ compensation claims brought against them by their employees;
- Investigated employees’ allegations of work related accidents and resulting injuries through site inspection, witness interviews, and formal discovery methods (depositions,

- paper and electronic document review, and requesting documents through subpoenas).
- Reviewed medical records to determine the extent of claimants' injuries, case value, and settlement strategy;
 - Scheduled functional capacity evaluations, vocational rehabilitation reports, and second medical opinions in an effort to mitigate my clients' liability for claimants' injuries.
 - Drafted periodic litigation reports to keep my clients' updated on all of their pending cases;
 - Prepared pre-hearing briefs for administrative hearings before a single workers' compensation commissioner;
 - Argued my clients' position before the single workers' compensation commissioner;
 - Presented witnesses in case-in-chief and cross examined claimants and claimants' witnesses;
 - Prepared appellate briefs for submission to workers' compensation appellate panel;
 - Presented oral arguments before the workers' compensation appellate panel;
 - Organized partnership between the firm and the Columbia Urban League to support diversity efforts in the local community;
 - Contributed to the creation of a successful proposal to a large insurance carrier to become their sole source for workers' compensation claim defense in South Carolina.
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Moore Taylor Law Firm, P.A.
West Columbia, SC
January 2, 2017 to present
Supervisor: Stanley Myers

- Represent plaintiffs in a general litigation practice, including: personal injury, medical malpractice, contract disputes, consumer protection, landlord/tenant, and employment discrimination;
- Represent the accused against criminal allegations by local, state, and federal governments;
- Develop, grow, and maintain general plaintiff civil litigation practice, claimant workers' compensation practice, and criminal defense practice;
- Support medical malpractice defense practice group by conducting depositions, performing legal research, and defending physicians against allegations of misconduct;
- Write and argue motions opposing for summary judgment before South Carolina Circuit Court Judges.
- Successfully tried five criminal trials to not guilty verdicts;
- Wrote and successfully argued motions opposing summary judgements.

14. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?

Answer: No.

15. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships that you currently have or have had in the past that could pose a conflict of interest in the position you seek.

Answer: I have no financial arrangements or business relationships currently, nor have I had any in the past that could pose a conflict of interest in the position I seek.

22. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a “lobbyist,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a “lobbyist’s principal,” as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(14)? If so, please provide the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.

Answer: No.

23. Since your decision to seek a position on the Public Service Commission, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value, as defined by S.C. Code Section 2-17-10(1), from a lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal?

Answer: No.

27. Please list the amount and recipient of all contributions made to members of the General Assembly within six months of filing this questionnaire.

Answer: I have not made any contributions to members of the General Assembly within six months of filing this questionnaire.

28. Have you directly or indirectly requested a pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened?

Answer: No.

Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened?

Answer: No.

29. Have you or has anyone on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy for the position of Public Service Commissioner?

Answer: No.

30. List all professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you have held in such groups.

Answers:

1. **South Carolina Bar Association (S.C. Bar) – member**
2. **South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division – Vice Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee**
3. **South Carolina Black Lawyers Association – member**

31. List all civic, charitable, religious, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five (5) years.

Answers:

1. **Downtown Church**
2. **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated**
3. **My Carolina Alumni Association – Life Member**
4. **My Carolina Black Alumni Council**

32. State any other information which may reflect positively or negatively on you, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for a position on the Public Service Commission.

Answer: I do not have any other information to share at this time.

33. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons, including your banker, from whom references could be required. Also, provide this Committee with original letters of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature. A photocopy, facsimile, or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation will not be accepted.

1. J.T. McLawhorn - Columbia, SC
2. Stanley Myers - Columbia, SC
3. Banker Letter
4. April Sampson - Columbia, SC
5. Shannon Poteat - Columbia, SC

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY RECORD INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature:

Date:

PLEASE NOTE: S.C. CODE SECTIONS REFERRED TO IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE ATTACHED