

Judicial Merit Selection Commission

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Erin B. Crawford, Chief Counsel
Kate Crater, Counsel

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MEDIA RELEASE

August 29, 2024

The Public Hearings for the Judicial Merit Selection Commission have been scheduled to begin Monday, November 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., regarding the qualifications of the following candidates for judicial positions:

Court of Appeals

Seat 2

The Honorable Kristi F. Curtis, Sumter, SC
Jason P. Luther, Columbia, SC
The Honorable Courtney Pope, Aiken, SC

Seat 3

The Honorable John D. Geathers, Ridgeway, SC

Seat 4

The Honorable Paula H. Thomas, Murrells Inlet, SC

Circuit Court

5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

Jess Mangum, Columbia, SC
Ashley A. McMahan, Columbia, SC
April W. Sampson, Irmo, SC
Christopher Dolan Taylor, Columbia, SC
Justin T. Williams, Columbia, SC
William K. Witherspoon, Columbia, SC

7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

J. Derham Cole Jr., Spartanburg, SC

9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

The Honorable Deadra L. Jefferson, Charleston, SC

9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

Bryan A. Alfaro, Charleston, SC
The Honorable Russell D. Hilton, Ridgeville, SC
Thomas J. Rode, Charleston, SC
Gregory K. Voigt, Charleston, SC

	R. Bruce Wallace, Mt. Pleasant, SC
10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Lawton McIntosh, Anderson, SC
11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Michael H. Emmer III, Gilbert, SC The Honorable David Shawn Graham, Lexington, SC The Honorable Kyliene Lee Keesley, West Columbia, SC Derrick E. Mobley, Gilbert, SC Christian Giresi Spradley, Batesburg-Leesville, SC
16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Jennifer S. Colton, York, SC Melissa A. Inzerillo, Rock Hill, SC
At-Large, Seat 7	Jason C. Alderman, Long Creek, SC The Honorable Joshua C. B. Allen, Anderson, SC De Grant Gibbons, Aiken, SC Riley J. Maxwell, Columbia, SC William Vickery “Vick” Meetze, Marion, SC Jane H. Merrill, Greenwood, SC Bart J. Stegall, Summerville, SC Aaron V. Taylor, Greenwood, SC
At-Large, Seat 14	The Honorable R. Keith Kelly, Spartanburg, SC
At-Large, Seat 15	The Honorable Maite D. Murphy, North Charleston, SC
At-Large, Seat 16	Charles J. McCutchen, Orangeburg, SC
<u>Family Court</u>	
1st Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Anne Guè Jones, Orangeburg, SC
2nd Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	Shannon M. Chandler, Graniteville, SC Amanda Frances Whittle, Aiken, SC
2nd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Angela W. Abstance, Denmark, SC
3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	William A. W. Buxton, Sumter, SC E. Thompson Kinney, Columbia, SC
3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Angela R. Taylor, Sumter, SC
3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable Ernest Joseph Jarrett, Kingstree, SC
4th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	C. Heath Ruffner, Cheraw, SC
5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Michelle M. Hurley, Columbia, SC

5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable M. Scott Rankin , Camden, SC
6th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Coreen B. Khoury , Lancaster, SC
7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Angela J. Moss , Inman, SC
7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable M. Todd Thigpen , Roebuck, SC
8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Bryan C. Able , Laurens, SC Robert W. Cone , Greenwood, SC James Conway “Jim” Todd IV , Laurens, SC
8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable Joseph C. Smithdeal , Greenwood, SC
9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Alice Anne Richter , Mt. Pleasant, SC
9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 4	The Honorable Blakely Copeland Cahoon , Summerville, SC
10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable David J. Brousseau , Anderson, SC
10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable M. Scott McElhannon , Anderson, SC
11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Huntley Smith Crouch , Lexington, SC
11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable Robert E. Newton , Lexington, SC
12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Alicia Allsbrook Richardson , Britton’s Neck, SC
12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable FitzLee H. McEachin , Florence, SC
13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Rochelle Yarborough Conits , Greenville, SC
13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable W. Marsh Robertson , Greenville, SC
13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 6	Jonathan D. Hammond , Greenville, SC Marcelo Torricos , Simpsonville, SC
14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Gerald C. Smoak Jr. , Walterboro, SC
14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	Addison D. Fender , Beaufort, SC Dustin Lee , Bluffton, SC

15th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Jan B. Bromell Holmes, Georgetown, SC
16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable David G. Guyton, Rock Hill, SC
At-Large, Seat 1	The Honorable Kimaka “Kim” Nichols-Graham, Greenville, SC
At-Large, Seat 2	The Honorable Timothy E. Madden, Greenville, SC
At-Large, Seat 3	The Honorable James G. McGee III, Florence, SC
At-Large, Seat 4	The Honorable Monét Pincus, Columbia, SC
At-Large, Seat 5	The Honorable Randall E. McGee, St. Matthews, SC
At-Large, Seat 6	The Honorable David Earl Phillips, Williamston, SC
<u>Administrative Law Court</u>	
Seat 2	Kristian Cross, Columbia, SC The Honorable Bryan S. Jeffries, West Columbia, SC Samuel L. Johnson, West Columbia, SC
Seat 3	The Honorable Robert L. Reibold, Columbia, SC
Seat 4	The Honorable Deborah Brooks Durden, Columbia, SC
<u>Masters-in-Equity</u>	
Abbeville County	The Honorable Roy R. Hemphill, Greenwood, SC
Aiken County	The Honorable M. Anderson Griffith, Aiken, SC
Beaufort County	Sean Michael Bolchoz Sr., Hilton Head Island, SC James J. Wegmann, Beaufort, SC
Berkeley County	Paul B. Ferrara III, Hanahan, SC W. T. Geddings Jr., Manning, SC J. Camden West, Moncks Corner, SC
Georgetown County	The Honorable Joe M. Crosby, Pawleys Island, SC
Kershaw County	The Honorable William B. Cox Jr., Camden, SC
Lee County	James Patterson Saverance Jr., Bishopville, SC
Lexington County	The Honorable James Otto Spence, Lexington, SC

Richland County

Stephanie N. Lawrence, Columbia, SC
Ian D. McVey, Columbia, SC

Active/Retired
Circuit Court

The Honorable Donald Bruce Hocker, Laurens, SC
Steven H. John, Little River, SC

Family Court

The Honorable Timothy H. Pogue, Marion, SC

Persons desiring to testify at public hearings shall furnish written notarized statements of proposed testimony, in accordance with the Procedural Rules of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission. These statements must be received by **Noon, Monday, October 28, 2024**. The Commission has witness affidavit forms that may be used for proposed testimony. While this form is not mandatory, it will be supplied on request. Statements should be mailed or delivered to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission as follows:

Erin B. Crawford, Chief Counsel
104 Gressette Building
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, SC 29202

All testimony, including documents furnished to the Commission, must be submitted under oath, and failure to appear will result in a dismissal of the related complaint. Persons knowingly giving false information, either orally or in writing, shall be subject to penalty.

For further information about the Judicial Merit Selection Commission and the judicial screening process, the website is available at:

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/JudicialMeritPage/JMSCMainPage.php>

Questions concerning the hearing and procedures should be directed to the Commission at (803) 212-6623.