



**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE  
2024**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Lee County Master-In-Equity

1. Name: Mr. James Patterson Saverance, Jr.  
Mrs.  
Ms.

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

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.  
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.) No

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Lee

Business Address: 210 North Main Street Bishopville, SC 29010

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home):  
(office):803-483-2000  
(cell):[Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted]1973  
Place of Birth: Sumter County, South Carolina  
Social Security Number: [Redacted]

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

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

5. 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, never served.

6. Family Status:

(a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated.

Married, never divorced

(b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation.

Married May 31, 1997, April Jackson Saverance, registered nurse

(c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s).

(d) 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.

(e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are NOT full-time students, also include the occupation and employer of each child.

[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.

Francis Marion University 1992-1996, received Bachelor of Science  
Mississippi College School of Law 1996-1999, received Doctor of Jurisprudence

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.

I took a trial advocacy class and at the end of the semester I was able to act as a lead attorney in a mock trial with a jury.

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.

Admitted to practice in South Carolina on November 15, 1999. Took the bar exam one time and passed.

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 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) 1999-2006 Associate attorney at Stuckey, Fata & Segars, Bishopville SC  
Handled family court cases, bankruptcy, criminal defense, personal injury, workers compensation and probate matters. I drafted and filed pleadings tried cases, settled cases, participated in mediations and several trials.
- (b) 2006-Present Owner and Operator of Saverance Law Firm, LLC, Sole Proprietorship.  
Handled family court cases, criminal defense state and federal, personal injury, workers compensation, disability and probate matters. I am in charge of all book keeping both general and trust accounts. I started the business from scratch and manage it myself. I have two legal assistants. I draft and file pleadings, file briefs and memorandums, attend hearings, mediation and have tried numerous cases.
- (c) 1999-2002 and 2007-2009 Public Defender for Lee County. During this entire period I was still involved in private practice. Handled all types of cases in General Sessions including some that potentially carried life without parole. Negotiated pleas, attended preliminary hearings, motion hearings and tried several cases. During this time I also handled cases defending persons charged with crimes in Juevenile Court in Lee County.
- (d) 2002-2006 Assistant Solicitor for Lee County. During this entire time I was still involved in private practice. In charge of handling prosecution of cases in General Sessions and Juevenile Court. Met with victims and law enforcement, negotiated pleas, participated in preliminary hearings and motion hearings. I also received two jury trial convictions on murder cases I tried.
- (e) 2006-2007 In charge of Prosecuting CDV cases in Magistrate Court for Lee County Sheriff Department. Met with witnesses, victims and law enforcement, negotiated pleas and tried cases.
- (f) 2011-2012 Contract attorney for DSS for Lee County. Managed docket and cases, met with witnesses and case workers. Tried dozens of cases, including TPR(s). Drafted and filed pleading and orders.
- (g) 2009-Present I am actively on the CJA list for Federal Court criminal appointed cases for the Florence Division. I was certified in 2009 and began receiving my own cases that Spring. I attend scheduling hearings, motion hearings, arraignments, pleas and sentencing hearings. I routinely negotiate pleas and prepare for trial. I have also filed numerous sentencing memorandums and variance motions. I have handled several federal criminal cases in the Columbia District. I have handled Post Sentencing hearings involving 35(b) reduction requests and Supervised Release violation hearings.

**Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 11–17. If you are a full-time 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.
- (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, and 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.
- (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.

(1.) City of Bishopville vs. Marion Brunson, Jr., Common Pleas court in Lee County, South Carolina case number #2021-CP-31-00129. This matter was referred to me as special referee for Lee County pursuant to an Order of Reference filed on October 26, 2021 with the Lee County Clerk of Court. I reviewed the pleadings, service papers, and several exhibits that were placed into evidence at the Hearing including delinquent tax notices, a final notice of sell, and a final tax sale of information along with several other documents. There were approximately 10 exhibits admitted into evidence in this matter. Plaintiff moved before the Court to issue an order pursuant to S.C. Code section 15-53-10 et seq. to declare the Plaintiff the fee simple owner of the property and that any interest possibly claimed by the defendant be extinguished. I issued an Order granting the relief requested by the Plaintiff.

(2.) Southern Gaines, LLC vs. Charles D. Holland et al, 2022-CP-31-00200 Common Pleas court for Lee County, South Carolina. This matter was referred to me as special referee for Lee County, in which the Plaintiff was seeking an Order of foreclosure and other relief. Plaintiff was an LLC and the record owner of the real property involved in this matter. The Defendant was a purchaser of this property pursuant to a contract of sale and agreement. In 2018 the Defendant, Charles D. Holland died. Plaintiff instituted an Order of foreclosure seeking a foreclosure on the property, an Order finding the decedent Chales D. Holland and heirs in breach of the contract. The Plaintiff waived a deficiency judgement against the Defendants. I reviewed the pleadings in this matter, reviewed the transcript of testimony, was involved with the notice of sale pursuant to the special referee's foreclosure sale, issued an order of foreclosure and an order confirming ownership and report of sale and disbursements as to the real property.

(3.) Gwen Hornsby vs. John Doe, et al 2021-CP-16-00642 This matter was referred to me on October 21, 2021. I reviewed pleadings including the Summons, Complaint, and Notice to Quiet Title, scheduled a Hearing, reviewed exhibits at the Hearing and received testimony. Plaintiff was seeking an Order to quiet title of real property described in the pleadings. Certain Defendants were named as John Doe and Richard Roe since they were unknown to the Plaintiff, I had to review the notices that were run by publication, and Lis Pendens.

I have also handled foreclosure cases in front of a Master-In-Equity representing Plaintiffs and at other times Defendants.

(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.

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: 60%
- (b) state: 40%

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: 40%
- (b) criminal: 40%
- (c) domestic: 5%
- (d) other: 15%

14. During the past five years
- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 65%
  - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? No cases that went to a jury verdict. However, I had several non-jury trials and have tried numerous cases before a jury during the time I have practiced law.
  - (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? (Resolved may include settlement, plea, by Judge's order during a motion hearing, etc.)  
None
  - (d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements?  
None

During the past five years, did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or co-counsel?

Sole Counsel

For sitting judges seeking a judgeship different than your current position,  
During the five years prior to your election to the bench, what percentage of your practice was in trial court, including matters that settled prior to 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) The State vs. Dorian J. Cain, 2004-GS-31-006, General Sessions Court in Lee County South Carolina. I was the prosecutor handling this case. I was solely responsible for preparing the case, preparing the indictment, handling motions, selecting a jury and trying the case. The Defendant, who was 18 years of age, was charged with armed robbery which occurred on or about December 18, 2003 of two elderly gentlemen at a barber shop in Bishopville, South Carolina. Based on testimony, 3 young males came in the building and two of them were carrying guns and demanded wallets from the victims. The Defendant was stopped in a vehicle later that day, was taken into custody, and was brought to the scene and identified by the victims. Defendant was indicted for two counts of armed robbery and plead not guilty and a jury trial began on April 6, 2004. Prior to trial, Defendant made a motion to suppress the in court identification of the Defendant alleging it was unnecessarily and unduly suggestive. The court denied the motion. The court also denied the Defendant's motion to dismiss for lack of probable cause to establish the stop and arrest. As stated above, I personally handled and argued

each of these motions. As prosecutor, I called several witnesses in my case in chief including the investigating officer, witnesses, and the victims. The Defendant was convicted on two counts of armed robbery as the jury returned the verdict on April 8, 2005, Defendant was sentenced to ten years. Post trial, someone in the community pressured one of the victims to execute a document which allegedly called his identification of the Defendant into question. This motion was heard on June 23, 2004 and handled by myself. At the Hearing, the victim disavowed the affidavit and reiterated his trial testimony and the motion was denied.

- (b) Tommy Collins, deceased, claimant vs. BellSouth Communications, Inc. Employer and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Broadspire Carrier South Carolina Workers Comp Commission WCC File Number #0411606. I was the sole attorney handling this matter on behalf of the claimant's heirs/beneficiaries. The claimant was employed by BellSouth Telecommunications Inc. and on June 13, 2004 Mr. Collins along with another employee were sent to Richland County, South Carolina to perform work related duties. Mr. Collins and the other employee were encouraged by the employer to stay at the hotel off Hwy 76 in Richland County because they had another job the next morning which they were required to attend. Both employees traveled in a company vehicle to the hotel and were staying in rooms at the hotel near one another. On July 13, 2004 around 9:30PM Mr. Collins walked across the street directly in front of the hotel and was struck and killed by a vehicle. The accident occurred a short distance from the hotel in which the claimant was staying. The employer paid for the hotel accommodations and provided a meal allowance for the claimant. Also, the claimant was subject to being called after hours by his employer which would sometimes require him to perform another job after normal working hours. The claim was denied by the carrier alleging that the claimant's injuries did not arise out of the course and scope of his employment. This case involved issues related to "personal comfort doctrine" and the "slight deviation doctrine". After a contested trial the claim was denied. We appealed this matter and the case was settled prior to a decision on the appeal.
- (c) State of South Carolina vs. Chad James, Eunice Davis McCall, and Efrain Thomas 2005-GS-31-102 General Sessions Court in Lee County. I was the sole prosecutor handling this case. Eunice Davis McCall and Efrain Thomas were prosecuted for the murder of Troy Rouse occurring on or about April 7, 2005 in violation of section 16-3-10 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended. The victim had seven gunshot wounds combined from the front and back. He was shot with two different firearms, one firearm from Mr. McCall and another firearm from Mr. Thomas. One of the unique aspects in this case was that the state had to prove that the gunshots from two defendants and two different guns both contributed to the death of Mr. Rouse. I called approximately a dozen witnesses in my case in chief which included witnesses, a pathologist, law enforcement investigators, and witnesses from SLED. Mr. Thomas shot the victim multiple times in his back while Mr. McCall shot the victim in the chest area at close range. Among other documents admitted into evidence were pictures, copy of the SLED trace evidence report, copy of the SLED firearms report, ballistic reports and the autopsy of the victim. The

Defendant, Efrain Thomas was convicted by a jury of the murder of Troy Rouse and was sentenced to 30 years. Defendant Eunice Davis McCall was convicted of manslaughter and was sentenced to imprisonment.

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)
  - (c)
  - (d)
  - (e)

I handled a few appeals in Family Court whereby my clients parental rights were terminated by a Family Court Judge at the request of SCDSS. Each of these cases were "failure to remedy conditions that lead to removal" and termination of rights was upheld by the Court of Appeals.

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. None.
- (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d)
  - (e)

None that I recall.

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.

No.

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)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d)
  - (e)



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.

South Carolina Bar Admission 11/15/1999

United States District Court of South Carolina 8/17/2000

Qualified and certified to receive CJA appointments for criminal Defendants in Federal Court in South Carolina since 2009.

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.

None.

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

See attached

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

None.

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.)

(a) Brief of Appellant South Carolina Court of Appeals (2007)

(b) Sentencing Memorandum South Carolina Workers Compensations Commission (2005)

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.

Not a member.

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) Lee County Bar Association

(b) SCAJ, South Carolina Association for Justice

(c)

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.

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.

No

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.)

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. (a) Have you filed state and federal income tax returns for the last 5 years? If no, please provide details. Yes, an extension was filed in April 2024.  
(b) Have you or any business with which you are associated been delinquent in any local, state, or federal taxes? If yes, please provide details. I am currently paying \$1,000 per month for federal taxes.  
(c) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? If yes, please provide details. No  
(d) Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? If so, please provide details. No  
(e) Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, please provide details, along with proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults. 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. If you participate in any employer-mandated contributions to a PAC or any other political entity, please describe and note your personal involvement in contributions. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening.

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. Any potential conflicts would be disclosed and if necessary, I would recuse myself from the case.

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 more that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more; or
  - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.

My father placed some land located in Lee County into a program with the USDA in 2022-2023. I don't think this applies to this question but can provide more information if necessary.

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.

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.

None

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.

N/A

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 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.

No

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.

I am currently covered by malpractice insurance and have been covered since I began the practice of law in 1999. I have coverage of \$1,000,000 with Attorney Protective.

49. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been cautioned with or without a finding of misconduct, 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 sanctions, disciplines, letters of caution, or findings of misconduct of any kind. Private or confidential dispositions will be redacted.

[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

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?

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.*

(a) Pastor Bobby J. James, Jr  
Pastor Cedar Creek Baptist Church  
[Redacted]

(b) Susan Sullivan  
Manager First Palmetto Bank  
[Redacted]

(c) Teresa Brown  
Lee County Clerk of Court  
[Redacted]

(d) Beth Hopkins  
FSS at First Citizens Bank  
[Redacted]

(e) Catherine Harris  
[Redacted]

56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, etc.? Facebook

If so, please list the account names for each account and the relevant platform. Saverance Law Firm LLC

How would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity? Not very active, would not be affected.

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, and any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

(a) Member of Gideons International, Lee County camp  
(b) Deacon Cedar Creek Baptist Church, Lee County SC  
(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 believe my twenty-five years of the practice of law has prepared me to serve in this capacity. I have experience as an attorney in private practice as well as serving as an assistant solicitor and public defender. I have experience in trying non-jury cases in family court, probate court and disability cases before an ALJ. I have also served as a guardian-ad-litem representing the interests of minor children. I have the experience of opening and running my own private law practice. I believe I have the temperament and demeanor for this position. I also believe my experiences in my community and serving at my Church have helped shape my character.

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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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

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