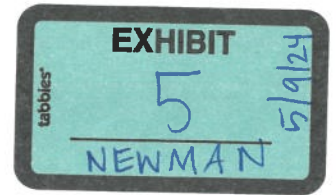


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
2024**



Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Supreme Court Justice, Seat 3

1. Name: The Honorable Jocelyn Newman

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

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

Circuit Court Judge, At Large, Seat 10

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Richland

Business Address: Richland County Judicial Center
1701 Main Street, Room 223
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): (803) 576-1779
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted], 1977
Place of Birth: Cleveland, Ohio
Social Security Number: [Redacted]

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

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

5. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.

N/A

6. Family Status:
- (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 and occupation.
 - (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 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.
- (a) Howard University School of Law, 2001-04, Juris Doctor
 - (b) University of South Carolina, 1997-99, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics
 - (c) Duke University, 1995-96, no degree awarded, transferred to University of South Carolina
8. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
- (a) National Conference of Negro Women, 2003-04
 - (b) Alternative Dispute Resolution Clinic, 2004
 - (c) Duke University Research Fellows Program, Summer 1996
 - (d) Duke University Peer Tutoring Program, 1995-96
9. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
- (a) South Carolina, admitted in 2004, bar exam taken once
 - (b) District of Columbia, admitted January – September 2004 under a limited license for student practice in the D.C. Court of Appeals, no exam required
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) Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable G. Thomas Cooper, Jr., 2004-05 – For approximately the first half of my clerkship year, Judge Cooper served as Chief Administrative Judge for the Court of General Sessions in the Fifth Judicial Circuit. Therefore, my job duties included conducting research on criminal and constitutional questions as well as observing a variety of criminal procedures. I also assisted with the evaluation, trial (which ultimately became a guilty plea), and sentencing in a death penalty matter. During the remainder of my time with Judge Cooper, he began to hear civil cases as well. I assisted him by preparing jury charges and verdict forms, researching important issues, preparing Orders, and communicating with counsel. While I handled certain administrative matters (such as scheduling), no financial management was involved.
- (b) Assistant Solicitor in Richland County, 2005-07 – I served under then-Solicitor W. “Barney” Giese, acting as lead (and often sole) prosecutor for a variety of misdemeanor and low-level felony crimes. I tried cases and presented guilty pleas in both Summary and Circuit Courts. I also participated as co-counsel in several serious and most serious felony cases, including murder, arson, and armed robbery. No financial management of any kind was involved.
- (c) Associate Attorney at Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A., 2007-2015 – From 2007 until mid-2008, I worked in the “Lobbying and Governmental Affairs” practice group as a registered lobbyist. I also represented both plaintiffs and defendants in litigation and administrative matters related to governmental regulation. Beginning in 2008, I moved to the firm’s litigation practice group and began doing insurance defense work. At that time, I represented defendants in matters concerning personal injury, construction defects, civil rights violations, and real property. I also did a limited amount of criminal defense work and served as appointed counsel in Family Court and Post-Conviction Relief actions. In this position, I did not handle administrative matters; and although I reviewed billing statements to be sent to clients, I did not participate in collection of monies or have any role with the firm’s finances.
- (d) Attorney at The DeQuincey Newman Law Firm / JT Newman, LLC), 2015-16 – During this time, I represented plaintiffs in personal injury actions as well as defendants in criminal matters, both in Summary and Circuit Courts across the State of South Carolina. This career move began as a joint venture but soon became a solo practice. During this time, I maintained a trust account and an operating account. Both accounts were open for approximately four months only and were closed soon after my election to the bench.

- (e) Circuit Court Judge, 2016-present – Since that time, I have served as Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes for General Sessions (2017) and for Common Pleas (2019, 2022, and July 2023-present). No financial duties are involved.

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.
- (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: several times a year
 - (b) state: weekly
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: 90%
 - (b) criminal: 5%
 - (c) domestic: 5%
 - (d) other: 0%

14. During the past five years
- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial?
 - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict?
 - (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.)
 - (d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements?

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

Prior to my election to the bench, nearly 100% of my work was in trial court, whether jury (approximately 50%) or non-jury (approximately 50%).

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) King v. American General Finance, Inc., 386 S.C. 82 (2009) – In this case, I represented the plaintiffs, each of whom had obtained loans from Defendant American General Finance, Inc. Plaintiffs alleged that Defendant violated the “attorney preference statute” (S.C. Code § 37-10-102) by lending money but failing to determine the borrower’s preference for legal counsel to be involved in the transaction at the time of the loan application. This case was significant in that it lent judicial interpretation to the “attorney preference statute” and established that the law requires that such preference be determined contemporaneously with the credit application. The appellate court also reversed the trial court’s decertification of the case as a class action.

- (b) Kelly v. White, 2011 WL 939015 (not reported in F.Supp.2d) – In this action, I represented the defendants, all of whom are employees of the South Carolina Department of Corrections (“SCDC”). Plaintiff, an inmate, filed this action pursuant to 14 U.S.C. §1983, alleging that his civil rights were violated by the use of excessive force against him. This case is significant in that the court’s decision turned on its determination of whether equitable tolling should apply to the statute of limitations. The court determined that where prisoners attempt to exhaust all available administrative remedies within SCDC, yet SCDC fails to respond to their written requests, the statute of limitations will be equitably tolled for only one hundred fourteen days – the total length of SCDC’s internal grievance procedure when properly used. Thus, “the 114-day rule” was established in prisoners’ civil rights actions involving SCDC.
- (c) State of South Carolina v. Alphonso Simmons (not reported) – I represented the State of South Carolina as an Assistant Solicitor in this action. The defendant was charged with approximately 60 offenses at the time, both in Richland and Kershaw Counties. We elected to try him on 14 of those offenses – 5 counts of armed robbery, 8 counts of kidnapping and 1 count of grand larceny. This case was significant in that there were significant disputes about the relevance, introduction, and suppression of certain evidence, all of which arose because the defendant was on a “crime spree” throughout Richland and Kershaw Counties. Therefore, much of the evidence related to the case being tried was discovered at other crime scenes, and the introduction of that evidence could potentially infringe on the defendant’s presumption of innocence and his right to remain silent. Ultimately, the case was tried to jury, and a guilty verdict was rendered on all 14 charges.
- (d) Crusader v. Thomas Robinson, 2009-CP-18-2300 (not reported) – In this trial I represented the plaintiff, a rent-to-own company who filed a claim and delivery action against the defendant in Magistrate’s Court. The defendant filed several counterclaims, which moved the case to Circuit Court. The case was tried over a seven-day period in the Dorchester County Court of Common Pleas. This action was significant to my legal career because I was able to win a directed verdict on my case-in-chief. In addition, the remainder of the trial involved a wide range of legal issues, including the authentication of evidence, impeachment of several witnesses, a witness’s misconduct during trial, opposing counsel’s absence from trial, opposing counsel’s improper statements during opening statements and closing arguments, and many, many other issues. The jury’s verdict (in favor of the plaintiff on the defendant’s counterclaims) rested on the distinction between liability and damages. Post-trial motions were filed and argued regarding the potential impropriety of the jury’s findings and whether the court should grant an additur – all of which were denied.
- (e) Barnhill v. Barnold, 2007-CP-40-2358 (not reported) – In this case, I represented the defendant, a corporation owned by the ex-wife of the plaintiff. The plaintiff had done work for the company without pay since its inception in the 1980’s. After the parties’ divorce, the plaintiff sued for 25 years’ worth of wages. This trial was

significant in that it was an equitable matter tried in the Court of Common Pleas with an advisory jury – an uncommon occurrence in litigation. The advisory jury returned its verdict along with a note to the court explaining how they arrived at the verdict. Despite his request for the advisory jury, the plaintiff disagreed with its decision and petitioned the court for a judgment far more than that which was awarded by the jury. Ultimately, the court entered a judgment identical to the one advised by the jury.

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) Herron v. Century BMW, 387 S.C. 525 (S.C. Sup. Ct. Apr. 19, 2010).

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) I was employed as an Assistant Solicitor for the Fifth Judicial Circuit from 2005 to 2007. During that time, I represented the State of South Carolina in several appeals from the summary courts. I am unsure of the names of any of those cases and do not believe that any of them were reported.

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. I was elected to the Circuit Court, South Carolina's court of general jurisdiction, on February 3, 2016. I took the oath of office in February 2016 and have served continuously since that time.

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) Freddie Eugene Owens v. Bryan P. Stirling, No. 2021-CP-40-02306, Order Granting Declaratory and Injunctive Relief (Sep. 6, 2022) – In this matter, the Court heard significant testimony concerning the State's newly-enacted death penalty statute. I issued an order in which I found the subject manners of execution to be unconstitutional. This, in some respects, began a chain reaction which ended in the General Assembly passing important "shield law" legislation.

(b) Robert Durden Inglis v. The South Carolina Republican Party, No. 2019-CP-40-05486, Order Denying Plaintiffs' Motion for Injunctive Relief (Dec. 11, 2019) – This case resolved the issue as to whether the South Carolina Republican Party was required to conduct a presidential preference primary when the party's nomination of Donald J. Trump was a foregone conclusion. I ruled that much like when the

Democratic Party nominated Barack Obama without conducting a primary, the Republican Party was not required to.

- (c) State of South Carolina v. Hykeem Dontavious Golson, No. 2017-GS-40-01921 – In this matter, I accepted a guilty plea and imposed sentence on Defendant, who burned a puppy in a church parking lot, ultimately causing its death. This case drew the largest number of spectators of any case I have handled and was of particular interest to animal rights activists and media outlets even outside the State of South Carolina.
 - (d) State of South Carolina v. Rickey Dean Tate, No. 2018-GS-46-03992 – I presided in the trial of this case, where Defendant was charged with several drug offenses. The forty-one-year-old was convicted only of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine. However, that conviction was the third of “three strikes,” with both other convictions being drug offenses. This was the first and only time that I sentenced someone to serve life without the possibility of parole.
 - (e) State of South Carolina v. William S. Crump, Jr., No. 2018-GS-24-00386 – I presided in the trial of this case, where Defendant was accused of sexually abusing and neglecting his minor children. Despite both children giving credible testimony, Defendant was acquitted of the sexual abuse charges. While speaking to the jurors afterwards, I learned of jurors’ strong need for forensic evidence and was reminded of the difficult undertaking that is jury duty.
20. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
- (a) Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, 2010
 - (b) United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, 2007
 - (c) State courts of South Carolina, 2004
 - (d) District of Columbia Court of Appeals, 2004 (limited student’s license)
21. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
- (a) I “teach” an online, self-paced undergraduate course at Benedict College. Over a six-week period (March – April 2023 and March-April 2024), “Court Systems” outlines the differences between federal and state courts and their hierarchy, the roles and titles of those involved in the court system, and the basic differences between the types of cases heard by each of the courts.
 - (b) In January 2024, my father and I were speakers for a “fireside chat” at the national meeting of the American Board of Trial Advocates in Biloxi, Mississippi. Our focus was our experiences serving on the bench together.
 - (c) In September 2023, I spoke to a group of high school students at the South Carolina Statehouse as part of the James Otis Lecture Series hosted by the South Carolina

Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. This presentation celebrated Constitution Day.

- (d) In June 2023, I was the featured speaker for Project Serv, a lecture series hosted by North Carolina Central University. The program was entitled “Justice and Resilience: An Eagle Strong Listening Session with the Honorable Jocelyn Newman, South Carolina Circuit Court Judge” and concerned my experiences on the bench and advice for students considering entering the legal field.
 - (e) In July 2022, I spoke at the Orientation School for Magistrates and Municipal Judges and gave advice to summary court judges on how to handle common occurrences in court for which there is no specific guidance via rule or statute.
 - (f) In March 2022, I was one of several female judges who spoke on various topics for Women’s History Month. “Virtual Fireside Chats: Beyond the Robe” was presented by the South Carolina Bar Diversity Committee.
 - (g) I made a presentation at the General Sessions Breakfast held by the South Carolina Bar’s Young Lawyers Division in October 2019.
 - (h) In October 2019, I made a short presentation and acted as a mock trial judge for at a workshop held for young lawyers by the South Carolina Bar’s Trial and Appellate Advocacy Section.
 - (i) In November 2018, I, along with several other Circuit Court judges, participated in a panel discussion about recent appellate decisions in criminal cases at the Solicitors’ Conference.
 - (j) I gave brief introductory remarks to attorneys attending the Richland County Bar Association’s Annual Free Ethics Seminar in October 2017.
 - (k) In July 2017, I spoke to a group of practicing attorneys as part of the Richland County Bar Association’s “Big Dogs” program.
 - (l) At the Auntie Karen Foundation’s Young Entrepreneurs Conference in October 2016, I led a discussion panel regarding the practice of law.
 - (m) In July 2016, I was a lecturer on evidence during the Orientation School for Magistrates and Municipal Judges, presented by South Carolina Court Administration.
 - (n) I participated as a panelist at the South Carolina Bar’s Colors of Justice program for middle and high school students in February 2016.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.
- See attached CLE compliance reports.
23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (a) “Standing Your Ground” in Civil Actions, The Defense Line (South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys’ Association, Columbia, SC), Fall 2013, Author
 - (b) C. Tyson Nettles, Unsung Hero, S.C. Young Lawyer, Aug. 2011, Author
 - (c) Judicial Profile of The Honorable Clifton Newman, The Defense Line (South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys’ Association, Columbia, SC), Spring 2009, Author

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) Order Granting Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, Owens v. Stirling, No. 2021-CP-40-02306 (S.C. Cir. Ct., filed Sep. 6, 2022). Sole author.

(b) Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions, Near v. U-Haul Intl., Inc., No. 2018-CP-40-06125 (S.C. Cir. Ct., filed Sep. 2, 2020). Sole author.

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, not rated.

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) South Carolina Bar, Member

(b) John Belton O'Neall Inn of Court, Member
President, March 2024-present
President-Elect, 2022-2024
Treasurer, 2014-2016

(c) American Bar Association, 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.

Since March 2023, I have been employed as an adjunct professor at Benedict College. I have taught only one course, "The Court System," an online, self-paced course for undergraduate students. Because of the nature of the course, my only responsibilities have

been grading students' assignments for approximately six weeks in Spring 2023 and another six weeks in Spring 2024. My direct supervisor is Lisa Taylor, Interim Chair of the Criminal Justice Administration and Social Sciences Department.

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

Yes. In August 2012, I was a candidate for Circuit Court Judge. JMSC found me "qualified, but not nominated." The same occurred when I ran for Circuit Court Judge in August 2014.

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.

- (a) 2008-09, Central Carolina Technical College, Adjunct Professor for Paralegal Studies
- (b) 2008-09, Kaplan Test Prep & Admissions, Instructor for LSAT and SAT Review courses

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.

Yes. In 2008, while employed as a governmental affairs attorney at Richardson, Plowden & Robinson, P.A., I was a registered lobbyist for Assurant Solutions.

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? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, give details. Also, proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults must be submitted with your application package.

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 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.

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.

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.

None.

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.

None.

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.

I do not accept gifts of significant value (i.e., greater than \$25) from any individual attorney or litigant. I do accept gifts with lesser value only from those persons with whom I have a personal relationship that exists irrespective of my position. However, I do not even accept such minor gratuities from anyone who, at that time, has a matter pending before me.

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

No.

45. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state

law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

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

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

No.

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

(a) David A. Duren v. Jocelyn Newman, No. 2019-CP-43-02277 – Plaintiff appeared before me in July 2016 as the applicant in a PCR action. At the conclusion of the hearing, I told Plaintiff that he would receive my written decision in the mail. Because the Order was mailed to his counsel of record and not directly to Plaintiff, he filed this lawsuit against both me and the attorney. On March 6, 2020, the “Order of Dismissal with Respect to Defendant the Honorable Judge Newman” was filed, granting my Motion to Dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), SCRPC.

(b) Glen Keith LaConey v. Jocelyn Newman, No. 3:18-cv-850-CMC – Plaintiff in this federal court action was, at the time, also a defendant in a criminal case in state court. In the state court matter, Plaintiff's bond had been revoked by another judge. He appeared before me upon an application to reinstate his bond, which I denied. He then filed suit in federal court alleging that the denial of his motion was a violation of his constitutional rights. The matter was dismissed by Order filed April 18, 2018, prior to service of the pleadings.

48. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy.

N/A

49. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been 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) The Honorable Rhonda D. McElveen
Barnwell County Clerk of Court
[Redacted]
- (b) Virginia F. Belcher
Chief Deputy Clerk of Court, Richland County
[Redacted]
- (c) Elizabeth B. Harris
Court Reporter
South Carolina Judicial Branch – Fifth Judicial Circuit
[Redacted]
- (d) Renee Lipson, Esquire
[Redacted]
- (e) Bailey S. McDaniel
[Redacted]

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

If so, please list the account names for each account and the relevant platform.

How would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity?

- (a) Instagram – [Redacted] This account pre-dates my election to the bench, but since that time I have privatized the account and have restricted access to people with whom I have personal relationships.
- (b) Facebook – [Redacted]. This is a private account with only one friend, my boyfriend. I have never posted anything from the account and created it solely to enable me to view other accounts (e.g., worship services during the COVID-19 pandemic).
- (c) X (fka Twitter) – [Redacted] Like Facebook, I created this private account solely to view other accounts. I have never tweeted from this account and have not created a profile.

(d) TikTok - [Redacted] I have never posted anything on my account (save one video created by my Godson without my knowledge, which was ultimately removed by the platform).

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) Commission on Judicial Conduct
- (b) South Carolina Bar's ADR Commission
- (c) South Carolina's Criminal Justice Act Task Force
- (d) South Carolina Delegate for the National Courts and Sciences Institute
- (e) Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- (f) American Mensa

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.

My life has been enriched by my time on the Circuit Court bench, and I have grown in ways that I could not have imagined. I look forward to the opportunity to continue that growth and positive contribution to the South Carolina Judicial Branch.

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: _____