



1226 Pickens Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
info@garberreporting.com
Telephone: (803) 256-4500 | Fax (803) 256-1999

HEARING PROCEEDINGS

May 09, 2024

2024 JMSC Spring Screening

REPORTER: Kathryn Bostrom

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

* * * *

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

* * * * *

BEFORE: SENATOR LUKE A. RANKIN, CHAIRMAN
REPRESENTATIVE "MICAH" CASKEY, IV, VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATOR SCOTT TALLEY
REPRESENTATIVE WALLACE H. "JAY" JORDAN, JR.
REPRESENTATIVE J. TODD RUTHERFORD
SENATOR RONNIE A. SABB
HOPE BLACKLEY
LUCY GREY MCIVER
ANDREW N. SAFRAN
J.P. PETE STROM
ERIN B. CRAWFORD, CHIEF COUNSEL

* * * * *

DATE: Thursday, May 9, 2024
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Gressette Building, Room 105
1101 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
REPORTED BY: Kathryn B. Bostrom, Court Reporter

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CONTENTS:
(Hearings)

PAGE

Exhibit Index 3

 The Honorable R. Keith Kelly

Examination by Ms. Faulk 8

Examination by Mr. Safran 17

 The Honorable Jocelyn Newman

Examination by Mr. Hinson 54

Examination by Ms. McIver 66

Examination by Mr. Strom 68

Examination by Representative Rutherford 71

Examination by Mr. Safran 73

Examination by Senator Sabb 77

Examination by Senator Rankin 80

 The Honorable Letitia H. Verdin

Examination by Ms. Crawford 93

Examination by Mr. Safran 101

Examination by Chairman Rankin 106

Certification of Reporter 120

Word Index

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

EXHIBITS

Exhibit No. 1 (13 Pages) 6
(PDQ - The Honorable R. Keith Kelly)

Exhibit No. 2 (2 Pages) 6
(Amendment to PDQ - The Honorable R. Keith Kelly)

Exhibit No. 3 (4 Pages) 7
(Sworn Statement - The Honorable R. Keith Kelly)

Exhibit No. 4 (1 Pages) 7
(Amendment - The Honorable R. Keith Kelly)

Exhibit No. 5 (17 Pages) 27
(PDQ - The Honorable Jocelyn Newman)

Exhibit No. 6 (1 Page) 27
(Amendment to PDQ - The Honorable Jocelyn Newman)

Exhibit No. 7 (5 Pages) 27
(Sworn statement - The Honorable Jocelyn Newman)

Exhibit No. 8 (5 Pages) 30
(Witness Affidavit - Meisner)

Exhibit No. 9 (19 Pages) 91
(PDQ - The Honorable Letitia H. Verdin)

Exhibit No. 10 (6 Pages) 91
(Sworn statement - The Honorable Letitia H. Verdin)

Court Reporter's Legend:
dashes [--] Intentional or purposeful]

1 interruption

2 [ph] Denotes phonetically written

3 [sic] Written as said

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 SENATOR TALLEY: Good morning. We're going to call
3 this meeting of the Judicial Merit Selection
4 Commission to order. On the advice of counsel, I
5 think we have a few matters that we might need to
6 take up in Executive Session. So Mr. Strom moves
7 we go into Executive Session.

8 REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD: Second.

9 SENATOR TALLEY: Seconded by Representative Rutherford.
10 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

11 MEMBERS: Aye.

12 SENATOR TALLEY: The ayes have it. We're going into
13 Executive Session.

14 (EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD FROM 9:20 - 9:38 am)

15 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. We are out of Executive
16 Session. During Executive Session, no votes were
17 taken.

18 JUDGE KELLY: Good morning.

19 SENATOR TALLEY: Good morning, sir.

20 JUDGE KELLY: How are you, Mr. Chairman?

21 SENATOR TALLEY: Doing well. How are you?

22 JUDGE KELLY: Good.

23 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. We have before us now to
24 be screened for Supreme Court Seat 3, the
25 Honorable R. Keith Kelly. Judge Kelly, if you

1 would, please, raise your right hand.

2 JUDGE KELLY: Yes, sir.

3 WHEREUPON:

4 R. Keith Kelly, being duly sworn and
5 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
6 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

7 SENATOR TALLEY: Very good. You have before you a
8 personal data questionnaire, as well as a sworn
9 statement that has been submitted to the
10 Commission. Are they both correct?

11 JUDGE KELLY: Yes, sir. Are the amendments in --
12 okay. Yes, yes. With the amendments in Exhibit
13 2.

14 SENATOR TALLEY: Anything need to be added beyond that
15 which you just mentioned?

16 JUDGE KELLY: No, sir.

17 SENATOR TALLEY: Do you object to us making part of
18 those -- or making those documents part of the
19 record of your sworn testimony?

20 JUDGE KELLY: No objection.

21 (EXHIBIT NO. 1 MARKED FOR
22 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (13 pages)
23 PDQ - R. Keith Kelly)

24 (EXHIBIT NO. 2 MARKED FOR
25 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (2 pages)

1 Amendment to PDQ - R. Keith Kelly)
2 (EXHIBIT NO. 3 MARKED FOR
3 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (4 pages)
4 Sworn Statement - R. Keith Kelly)
5 (EXHIBIT NO. 4 MARKED FOR
6 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 page)
7 Amendment - The Honorable R. Keith
8 Kelly)

9 SENATOR TALLEY: Thank you. The Judicial Merit
10 Selection Commission has thoroughly investigated
11 your qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry
12 has focused on nine evaluative criteria and has
13 included the following: A ballot box survey,
14 thorough study of your application materials,
15 verification of your compliance with State ethics
16 laws, search of newspaper articles in which your
17 name appears, study of previous screenings, and a
18 check for economic conflicts of interest. We
19 have received no affidavits filed in opposition
20 to your election, no witnesses are present to
21 testify. Judge, you have the opportunity, if you
22 wish, to make a brief opening statement or we can
23 turn it over to counsel for some questions.

24 JUDGE KELLY: Well, I appreciate the opportunity to be
25 here, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Committee,

1 and I'll answer any questions that you have for
2 me.

3 SENATOR TALLEY: Very good. Ms. Faulk.

4 MS. FAULK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning,
5 Judge. It's nice to see you again, sir

6 JUDGE KELLY: Good morning.

7 MS. FAULK: I note for the record that based on the
8 testimony contained in the candidate's PDQ, which
9 has been included in the record with the
10 candidate's consent, Judge Kelly meets the
11 constitutional and/or statutory requirements for
12 this position regarding age, residence, and years
13 of practice.

14 EXAMINATION

15 BY MS. FAULK:

16 **Q. Judge, why do you now want to serve as a justice on**
17 **the Supreme Court?**

18 A. I want to serve as a justice because I enjoy research.
19 I did a lot my own research. Of course, I rely a lot
20 on my law clerk too, but I think that's important
21 thing to do. I mean, that -- that's the part of the
22 Supreme Court --

23 SENATOR TALLEY: Judge, is the green light in front of
24 you on? I didn't mean to cut --

25 JUDGE KELLY: Yes, sir.

1 SENATOR TALLEY: Okay.

2 JUDGE KELLY: It's on.

3 SENATOR TALLEY: There you go. Yes, sir. All right.

4 JUDGE KELLY: Okay. All right. Is that a little
5 better?

6 SENATOR TALLEY: Yes, sir.

7 A. All right. But the -- but the biggest reason is is
8 there's a job to do there, and -- and you and I talked
9 about in our meeting a week ago or so, just get past
10 everything. The reason is I want to be there is
11 there's a job to do there and I can do that job and I
12 can -- and I can represent this State on the judiciary
13 I think well.

14 **Q. Could you identify what you would consider your**
15 **greatest accomplishment as a lawyer or a judge or**
16 **outside of that arena, and would you please explain**
17 **why.**

18 A. My greatest accomplishment?

19 **Q. Yes, sir.**

20 A. All right. I'm gonna get personal on this one because
21 I have a brand new two-and-a-half-week-old grandson.
22 So my greatest accomplishment is our children and our
23 grandchildren in my personal life. Greatest
24 accomplishment I think is being a circuit court judge
25 in my professional life. I have thoroughly enjoyed

1 being a circuit court judge.

2 **Q. Is there any area of the law that you would bring to**
3 **the Supreme Court bench that you believe would be an**
4 **asset to the court?**

5 A. Ask me that one more time, please, Madison.

6 **Q. Yes, sir. Is there any area of the law that you would**
7 **bring to the Supreme Court bench that you believe**
8 **would be an asset to the Supreme Court?**

9 A. I think I would bring not only civil, but criminal
10 experience to the bench. I know I would. It's hard
11 to believe, but this -- I'm in my 36th year. Twenty
12 five years of practicing law, eleven years, come July
13 1, on the bench as a circuit court judge. So I've
14 been in criminal cases, to include four death penalty
15 cases, but I've also tried cases in the common pleas
16 arena; and of course I've presided over civil court,
17 common pleas, and general sessions. So I bring a
18 wealth of experience I think across the spectrum.

19 **Q. How would you describe your general judicial**
20 **philosophy?**

21 A. Well, my judicial philosophy is I'm a very
22 conservative person and I restrain myself from trying
23 to make law. I'm not an activist judge by any stretch
24 of the imagination. I follow what the Legislature has
25 written, and I don't twist it to turn and bend it

1 something else. It's plan what the Legislature said,
2 and as I've heard before, the plain things are the
3 main things and the main things are the plain things.

4 **Q. What is your vision for the future of our judicial**
5 **system, and what changes would you advocate for and**
6 **why?**

7 A. I think we have a good judicial system quite honestly.
8 I don't know of any big changes that I would advocate
9 to make. I know there's been some talk about
10 expanding the size of our Supreme Court. I think that
11 started a couple of years ago. Whether or not it goes
12 from five members to seven or from seven to nine or
13 something like that, our state is growing. So that
14 might be -- that might be something that the General
15 Assembly wants to look at or is looking at. I don't
16 know for sure.

17 **Q. What steps, if any, do you think that should be taken**
18 **to foster public trust in the judicial system?**

19 A. Well, we foster trust in the judicial system when we -
20 - when we do the right thing, you know. We show up on
21 time, we don't keep jurors waiting, we don't keep
22 litigants waiting. So we're mindful of everyone's
23 time and we get rulings out. Lawyers don't need to
24 wait on rulings. All of us have experienced that once
25 or twice in our careers. So I think diligence in the

1 job, in the profession, fosters a good relationship
2 and it looks good to the public.

3 **Q. When do you believe that it is appropriate to write a**
4 **concurring or dissenting opinion?**

5 A. If I had something -- if I had something to add to it,
6 I would write a concurring or dissenting opinion. If
7 I had something to add to the ruling or I disagreed
8 with it.

9 **Q. As a follow up, are there any dangers to writing a**
10 **concurring or dissenting opinion?**

11 A. I could say yes, that there could be a danger of
12 writing a concurring or dissenting opinion. You know,
13 lawyers need to know what the Court is saying, and not
14 be guessing what the Court is saying.

15 **Q. Judge Kelly, the Commission received 434 ballot box**
16 **surveys regarding you with 114 additional comments.**
17 **The ballot box survey, for example, contained the**
18 **following positive comments. First: Judge Kelly has**
19 **a wealth of experience and a sense of duty and**
20 **character that make him superbly qualified for the**
21 **Supreme Court. Next: Judge Kelly epitomizes the**
22 **qualities and character traits we require for judges**
23 **in South Carolina and for justices of our highest**
24 **court. He has an incredible work ethic, is extremely**
25 **conscientious, and is fair to everyone who appears in**

1 his courtroom. He would make an excellent addition to
2 the South Carolina Supreme Court. Twelve of the
3 written comments express concerns. Eight comments
4 question the sufficiency of your appellate experience.
5 What would you like to offer in response to these
6 concerns?

7 A. Well, I have sat on the Supreme Court twice. Once
8 about very close in time, but I've sat there twice. I
9 enjoyed being there. I enjoyed the research that I
10 did, and I never was a circuit court judge before I
11 became one. I wouldn't be a justice before I became
12 one. As far as appellate work, we do sit in appellate
13 court, you -- remind -- please be reminded that the
14 circuit court is the appellate court for magistrate
15 court. So those things come to us anyway.

16 **Q. Four comments question the suitability of your**
17 **temperament. How would you respond to those concerns?**

18 A. I would love to have a specific on that. I've -- I
19 don't -- I never raised my voice in court. I don't
20 have a -- I don't carry a gavel. I don't use a gavel.
21 As I told you the other day, I have one Judge Derham
22 Cole gave me on when I got elected in 2013, and it has
23 my name on it and it sits on fireplace mantle at my
24 house. I've never carried it to court.

25 **Q. Judge Kelly, your SLED report indicated that since**

1 your last screening, a lawsuit was filed against you
2 in January of 2023. This case is entitled Jeter v
3 Cole, and appears to be a pro se civil action filed by
4 a incarcerated individual. The case is still pending.
5 Is there anything that you would like to tell us about
6 that?

7 A. I sure will. I got served with that I think the 18th
8 over in Cherokee County, and my name is mentioned
9 exactly one time and it's in the caption. There's not
10 one allegation in there that I did anything
11 whatsoever. He sued -- what it appears to me he sued
12 everybody in -- all the judges in the 7th Circuit.

13 Q. You were also a named defendant in a pro se civil
14 action for alleged violations of various
15 constitutional rights, filed in 2021.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. The case was dismissed with prejudice, and it was
18 titled Geter v Kelly. Would you like to tell us
19 anything about that?

20 A. I didn't know anything about it until you called it to
21 my attention and I went and looked, and I was never
22 served with that because it was filed by an inmate who
23 also sued Spartanburg County, the detention center,
24 Warden Larry Powers, and numerous other people,
25 including deputies. And when it was filed, it was, of

1 course, sent to the U.S. Magistrate. The U.S.
2 Magistrate issued a no-serve order in that case, and
3 it was then report -- the report and recommendation to
4 the district court judge was to dismiss it because it
5 was -- there was nothing there. And so I -- I didn't
6 know anything about it until you told me about it. It
7 was dismissed.

8 Q. Thank you, sir. Judge Kelly, you've been reversed on
9 eight occasions, five of which relate to incorrect
10 rulings on dispositive motions. The most recent
11 reversal was in 2024, January of 2024. In this case,
12 your rulings were affirmed in part and reversed in
13 part. Reversed on the granting of the defendant's
14 motion to dismiss, and you held the cause of action
15 did not fall within the survival statute. This was
16 Hughes v Bank of America National Association. Is
17 there anything that you would like to tell us about
18 that case in particular?

19 A. Yes, I will. Justice Buck James told me at the
20 convention a week ago that -- in front of everybody --
21 that I got it right because the Supreme Court allowed
22 arguments against precedent, and they overturned some
23 prior cases, but up until then, it didn't survive.

24 MS. FAULK: Very good. Thank you, sir. I would note
25 that the Upstate Citizens Committee reported

1 Judge Kelly to be well qualified as to the
2 evaluative criteria of ethical fitness,
3 professional and academic ability, character,
4 reputation, experience, and judicial temperament.
5 Judge Kelly was also found qualified in the
6 evaluative criteria constitutional
7 qualifications, physical health, and mental
8 stability. The Committee included the following
9 comment: Judge Kelly is an outstanding jurist.
10 He has an outstanding reputation and is well
11 liked by all.

12 **Q. And finally, sir, we'll move on to just a couple of**
13 **housekeeping questions, and that'll be it for the**
14 **questions from me. Since submitting your Letter of**
15 **Intent to run for this seat, have you contacted any**
16 **members of the Commission about your candidacy?**

17 **A. I have not.**

18 **Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including the**
19 **limitations on contacting members of the General**
20 **Assembly regarding your screening?**

21 **A. I am familiar.**

22 **Q. Since submitting your Letter of Intent, have you**
23 **sought or received the pledge of any legislator,**
24 **either prior to this date or pending the outcome of**
25 **your screening?**

1 A. I have not.

2 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
3 the General Assembly on your behalf, or are you aware
4 of anyone attempting to intervene in this process on
5 your behalf?

6 A. No.

7 MS. FAULK: I would just note for the record that any
8 concerns raised during the investigation
9 regarding the candidate were incorporated into
10 the questioning of the candidate today. Mr.
11 Chairman, I have no further questions. Thank
12 you, Judge.

13 JUDGE KELLY: Thank you.

14 SENATOR TALLEY: Thank you, Madison. Members of the
15 Commission, have questions for Judge Kelly? Mr.
16 Safran.

17 EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. SAFRAN:

19 Q. Judge, glad to see you up here.

20 A. Good to see you.

21 Q. Let me just take a step along the lines of what you
22 were asked. I mean, I know that during the process,
23 that I've come up, that I've heard more than once when
24 talking about the function of a circuit judge that if
25 you get reversed, they don't deduct anything from your

1 check. If you get affirmed, they don't add something.

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. But understand you're trying to be diligent and also
4 vigilant in terms of making these rulings; is that
5 fair?

6 A. That's fair.

7 Q. All right. Nobody goes a career without getting
8 reversed. It happens.

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 Q. What do you take away from them when it does happen
11 just in terms of how does it adjust you, what -- I
12 mean, what measures do you take, I guess, to say,
13 Okay. They didn't agree with me on this one, more or
14 less kind of modify or maybe safeguard for the future?

15 A. Well, it's a learning experience. For instance, one
16 of the cases that I was reversed on -- it's the
17 Alexander case, Greenville. I remember the case well,
18 but I just flat out got the ruling wrong because what
19 I did was I charged in violation of the Logan case,
20 and that's on me. Okay? But I always have a charge
21 conference with the lawyers and I'm not -- I'm not
22 shifting the blame. I am it. The buck stops here,
23 just like Truman. Okay? It stops with me. But it
24 was obviously in an old charge that I used, and I
25 didn't catch it. The lawyers didn't catch it either,

1 but that's not on them. That's on me. So it's a
2 learning experience.

3 Q. Well, could -- I mean, years ago I worked for a
4 district judge, and I mean, they made us -- they made
5 us spend all our time working on the charge --

6 A. That's right.

7 Q. -- because he was saying, you know, I can handle all
8 the rulings that are gonna come up. I got that.
9 Where they're gonna get me is gonna be on the charge.
10 And so, you know, made it clear that you guys got to
11 spend the time to really -- you worry about that
12 because I guess -- you know, look, lawyers vary and
13 unfortunately you can't necessarily rely on some to
14 give you what you need, and I know you don't have the
15 luxury of two or three law clerks.

16 A. Uh-huh.

17 Q. You got one.

18 A. I got one.

19 Q. I mean, does your clerk spend some time, I guess,
20 trying to help prep up on a charge before a trial?

21 A. My clerk does the charge. When the trial starts --
22 actually probably before the trial starts because what
23 we do is we reach out about Wednesday of the week
24 prior to next week about the real docket because what
25 the docket is posted, that's not a real docket. You

1 gonna get there and case No. 1 through 4 is already
2 off the -- they're pleading or doing whatever it is or
3 the case is settled. So my law clerk will reach out
4 to the lawyers themselves like on the first six or
5 seven and see where are you, where are you on this and
6 so forth. But as soon as we start the trial, whatever
7 -- civil or criminal -- as we soon as we start it, he
8 is already -- he or she -- is already putting together
9 the jury charge because we're using over and over, I
10 mean, we're cutting and pasting, right? I mean, you
11 got a murder case or medical malpractice case, you
12 just go to your law library and start out right there.

13 **Q. Okay.**

14 A. But yeah, they spend some time on it. But again, in
15 that Alexander, I just flat out missed it.

16 **Q. Let me just switch gears with you a little bit. I**
17 **knew you a little bit when you were down here in the**
18 **Legislature. I hadn't had the pleasure, I think, to**
19 **appear in from -- in front of you since you've been on**
20 **the bench, but I've always known you as a very people**
21 **oriented person, and also have gotten the sense from**
22 **talking to friends up there that you really like kind**
23 **of back and forth in the courtroom, you like basically**
24 **that part of, you know, the day to day of that. Okay?**
25 **And having kind of seen both sides of it myself, you**

1 understand how different it is if you're an appellate
2 judge when it comes to that kind of day to day. You
3 know, you don't see the lawyers like that. You don't
4 really see the people. You're basically kind of up in
5 an office between you and whoever, and you -- you're
6 researching and writing. And I know that -- you know,
7 I love working on briefs and I like arguing appeals,
8 but I sure don't like doing it on a regular day to
9 day. I mean, I just couldn't see that as being
10 something that I would find fun. Have you thought
11 about kind of the big change?

12 A. I have, but I compare that to when I came to where I
13 am. When I had the chance in 2013 to seek the circuit
14 court, I was a trial lawyer, and my wife, Cindy, asked
15 me -- and I'd been at it 25 years. Family court,
16 criminal court, civil court, couple of workers' comp
17 things along the way, little bit of Social Security,
18 but -- because we practiced, you know, Lister, Flynn
19 and Kelly. One time we had Talley in there too in the
20 name of that. But anyway, yeah. Cindy asked me that.
21 She goes, Are you really sure you want to go to the
22 bench, and I said, Yeah, I do. I think I'll enjoy it,
23 and I have. And she's also asked me the same thing
24 about that, and I've also talked to Justice James,
25 but, you know, Buck was, you know, It's a little

1 different, but he enjoys it. I think I -- I just
2 truly think I would enjoy it.

3 Q. I guess in terms of you -- background, I know the
4 general -- because of the -- how much you have to deal
5 with day to day between the criminal and the civil
6 dockets, and just how we've all done it for as long as
7 I can remember and heck, I've been doing this 40 years
8 now.

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. So the -- generally the lawyers are doing the orders,
11 the judges are kind of just going back with red pencil
12 and correcting. I mean, again, it -- you really, as
13 far as opportunities, probably have not had the
14 ability time wise to be able to go and spend a lot of
15 time doing this research and doing this writing; and
16 I'm not saying you couldn't. What I'm saying is
17 again, is that something that really you're ready to
18 kind of just kind of become your stock in trade so to
19 speak?

20 A. I am. I am. I've thought about that and you're
21 right, we don't have time -- I don't have time to
22 write every order, but I do enjoy when I get a chance
23 to do that, and the one that I submitted, you know,
24 that I wrote that I -- well, recent times that I can
25 remember, but I really enjoyed -- it was magistrate

1 court appeal and I really enjoyed doing little bit of
2 research and writing it and I -- I've -- I think I
3 would enjoy it. I really do.

4 MR. SAFRAN: Thank you.

5 JUDGE KELLY: Yes, sir.

6 SENATOR TALLEY: Thank you, Mr. Safran. Ms. Blackley.

7 MS. BLACKLEY: Good morning.

8 JUDGE KELLY: Good morning.

9 MS. BLACKLEY: I don't have a question. I just have a
10 comment. We had the pleasure of getting to work
11 with you when I was clerk, and I just want it to
12 be on record to know that you are a phenomenal
13 judge and very caring. I was actually a little
14 shocked about the disposition of maybe some of
15 the concerns about your demeanor. I've never
16 experienced that one day, and you like to move
17 cases. You were very punctual and ready to work
18 and treated everybody, in my opinion, very
19 fairly, and I want to thank you for that. And I
20 wish you well and thank you for running.

21 JUDGE KELLY: Thank you. I get to the courthouse by
22 eight o'clock, lot of times 7:45 or so.

23 MS. BLACKLEY: I remember.

24 JUDGE KELLY: Yeah.

25 MS. BLACKLEY: Yeah. You still doing that?

1 JUDGE KELLY: Yeah.

2 MS. BLACKLEY: I figured you probably would be.

3 JUDGE KELLY: Oh, yeah. I'm up at five. So I may --
4 just go to the courthouse.

5 MS. BLACKLEY: Yeah.

6 JUDGE KELLY: That's -- you get to sign orders then,
7 you know. It's like I go in there, it's quiet,
8 it -- we got a coffee maker in my chamber and I
9 may hit the coffee button, and you know, I get to
10 work and signing orders. It's quiet and ...

11 MS. BLACKLEY: And I want to also say thank you for
12 speaking to our youth who come to the courthouse.

13 JUDGE KELLY: Yeah.

14 MS. BLACKLEY: Made a big impact on them, especially
15 through the institute, and so thank you. Thank
16 you for giving back is --

17 JUDGE KELLY: I enjoy it. I really do.

18 SENATOR TALLEY: Anybody else? If not, Judge,
19 obviously we've known each other very long time.
20 I share Ms. Blackley's comment. When we got our
21 materials earlier in the week and was reading
22 through, I was surprised to see that anybody
23 would question or call into question your
24 temperament. I've been before you numerous times
25 and, as you alluded to, practiced law with you

1 for a number of years. Ms. Blackley, he was
2 doing that back then too. We'd be the first two
3 at the office. I --

4 JUDGE KELLY: Yeah.

5 SENATOR TALLEY: -- was young and hungry. He just was
6 up early. So we'd have coffee and that's still
7 when the newspaper came to the backdoor.

8 JUDGE KELLY: That's right.

9 SENATOR TALLEY: And we would take turns reading the
10 newspaper in the morning.

11 JUDGE KELLY: That's right.

12 SENATOR TALLEY: But appreciate you all for this. I
13 have zero concern about your temperament knowing
14 you as I do, and so I -- that's probably somebody
15 that was late to court and didn't appreciate the
16 fact that you start when it says we're gonna
17 start, if not two minutes before. So thank you.
18 All right. There no other questions of Judge
19 Kelly, that will conclude this portion of our
20 screening process. I want to take this
21 opportunity to remind you that pursuant to the
22 Commission's evaluative criteria, the Commission
23 expects candidates to follow the spirit as well
24 as the letter of the ethics law, and we will view
25 violations or the appearance impropriety as

1 serious and potentially deserving of heavy weight
2 in screening deliberations. On that note, and as
3 you know, the record will remain open until the
4 formal release of the report of qualifications,
5 and you may be called back at such time if the
6 need arises. You're aware of that, correct, sir?

7 JUDGE KELLY: Yes, sir.

8 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. Thank you. Thank you for
9 offering and thank you for your continued service
10 to the State of South Carolina.

11 JUDGE KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 (OFF THE RECORD)

13 SENATOR TALLEY: Good morning.

14 JUDGE NEWMAN: Good morning.

15 SENATOR TALLEY: I am clearly not Luke Rankin. He is
16 away attending to another matter, but will
17 hopefully join us soon. Next we are gonna screen
18 the Honorable Jocelyn Newman for Supreme Court
19 Seat 3. Judge Newman, if you would, please raise
20 your right hand.

21 WHEREUPON:

22 Jocelyn Newman, being duly sworn and
23 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
24 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

25 SENATOR TALLEY: Before you is your personal data

1 questionnaire and sworn statement that were
2 previously submitted to the Commission. If
3 you'll take a minute, I have two questions for
4 you. One is are they both correct, and second,
5 do we need to update them or add anything before
6 we ask to submit them into the record?

7 JUDGE NEWMAN: They both appear to be correct. There
8 is an amendment that I previously submitted that
9 has been marked as Exhibit 6.

10 SENATOR TALLEY: Thank you.

11 JUDGE NEWMAN: It's present. No additional amendments
12 need to be made.

13 SENATOR TALLEY: Okay. Do you object to us making that
14 part of the record?

15 JUDGE NEWMAN: I do not.

16 (EXHIBIT NO. 5 MARKED FOR
17 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (17 pages)
18 PDQ - The Honorable Jocelyn
19 Newman)

20 (EXHIBIT NO. 6 MARKED FOR
21 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (1 pages)
22 Amendment to PDQ - The Honorable
23 Jocelyn Newman)

24 (EXHIBIT NO. 7 MARKED FOR
25 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (5 pages)

1 Sworn Statement - The Honorable
2 Jocelyn Newman

3 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. So that will take place at
4 this time. Thank you, Lindi. The Judicial Merit
5 Selection Commission has thoroughly investigated
6 your qualifications for the bench. Our inquiry
7 has focused on nine evaluative criteria and has
8 included a ballot box survey, thorough study of
9 your application materials, verification of your
10 compliance with state ethics laws, search of
11 newspaper articles in which your name appears, a
12 study of previous screenings, and a check for
13 economic conflicts of interest. We have received
14 one affidavit filed in opposition to your
15 election, and we have a witness present to
16 testify. At this time, Judge, you are afforded
17 the opportunity to make a brief opening statement
18 if you wish. If not, then we'll turn it over to
19 Mr. Hinson for the questions.

20 JUDGE NEWMAN: I'm just thankful to be here. I'm
21 thankful many of you have been on this Commission
22 for a period of time and contributed in many ways
23 to my ability to serve as a circuit court judge
24 for the past eight years. I'm thankful for that
25 and I hope to continue to serve the state in

1 whatever capacity I'm permitted to do so.

2 SENATOR TALLEY: Very good. And I see that you have a
3 guest with you. Would you like to introduce him?

4 JUDGE NEWMAN: I do. This is Walter Shawn McDaniels,
5 affectionately known as my partner in life.

6 SENATOR TALLEY: Very good. Thank you. Welcome, sir.
7 Nice to have you with us here this morning.

8 MR. MCDANIELS: Thank you very much.

9 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. We are going to ask you,
10 Judge, just if you'll have a seat for a minute.

11 JUDGE NEWMAN: Yes, sir.

12 SENATOR TALLEY: Procedurally, we're going to hear from
13 the complainant at this time, and then you'll be
14 afforded opportunity to respond.

15 JUDGE NEWMAN: Yes, sir.

16 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. Ms. Meisner, if you want
17 to come forward. That microphone should be on.

18 MS. MEISNER: I believe it is.

19 SENATOR TALLEY: If you'll raise your right hand.

20 WHEREUPON:

21 Rhonda Meisner, being duly sworn and
22 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
23 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

24 SENATOR TALLEY: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Hinson.

25 MR. HINSON: Good morning, Ms. Meisner.

1 MS. MEISNER: Good morning.

2 MR. HINSON: Ms. Meisner, the Commission has before it
3 your affidavit of complaint, which I -- Chairman,
4 I would ask be made part of the record at this
5 time.

6 SENATOR TALLEY: Hearing no objection, it will be done.

7 (EXHIBIT NO. 8 MARKED FOR
8 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (5 pages)
9 Witness Affidavit - Meisner)

10 MR. HINSON: Ms. Meisner, the purpose of today's
11 hearing is for the Commission to review
12 qualifications of the candidates, pursuant to the
13 nine evaluative criteria provided by law. The
14 Commission is not a court of law, and is not here
15 to re-litigate a matter nor hear arguments in a
16 pending matter. We are in receipt of your
17 affidavit and the Commission members have that
18 before them and have reviewed it prior to today's
19 hearing. At this time, is there anything that
20 you wish to offer to supplement your affidavit
21 regarding Judge Newman's qualifications, again,
22 focusing on the nine evaluative criteria?

23 MS. MEISNER: I want to first say thank you for
24 allowing me to come. I know that Representative
25 Rutherford sometimes doesn't like this process as

1 he apologized last time to the judicial candidate
2 for being subjected to this process. I think
3 that this process is not only important, but it's
4 -- it's part of the process that this committee's
5 created. So I appreciate being able to be here.
6 I would ask that -- there is -- is somewhat of a
7 change in the process in that there is a bridge
8 between the Judicial Merit Selection Committee
9 and the Commission on Judicial Conduct because
10 that divide I think is part of why citizens feel
11 like that there's a need for judicial reform as
12 indicated in the 82 percent of folks that said,
13 Yes. We need judicial reform on the Republican
14 primary ballot. With regard to Judge Newman, I
15 think that my affidavit is clear. Anybody
16 watching this on the internet should look at
17 those documents. Prior to her implementation of
18 a unilateral process, upon information and
19 belief, it's a unilateral process by which there
20 has to be a conflict before she entertains
21 whether to grant a continuance in hearings.
22 Well, when you have out of town business travel,
23 a conflict already exist. That is a -- kind of a
24 -- there is a conflict when there -- it exists
25 prior to being able to file a motion and say,

1 Hey, these days I'm in a town, this kind of
2 thing, but more importantly and very, very, very
3 seriously, for our Supreme Court, we have got to
4 make sure that the candidates are not only being
5 honest and faithful to their oath of office, but
6 ex parte communications, particularly during a
7 hearing, are problematic. In the hearing at
8 hand, it appeared to me at the end of the process
9 -- and not only was I -- was -- was -- agreed
10 that travel for out of town business meetings
11 that involved internationally renowned
12 cardiologist, was not granted a continuance
13 despite the fact that plane tickets, hotel
14 reservations, coordination of multiple people
15 from different states were involved in this. It
16 wasn't -- it wasn't a trip to Disneyland. I
17 timely -- barely -- because I had to cancel
18 everything to get the motion in on time, which is
19 required 10 days before the hearing, to try to
20 get a continuance, yet the continuance was not
21 granted. Importantly, this hearing was scheduled
22 for Webex. So while it -- it -- maybe just that
23 day was gonna be a Webex day. In any event, the
24 fact that I already had traveled, which was in my
25 divorce proceedings in Family Court, and the same

1 litigation firm was involved in both, the Circuit
2 Court and the Family Court, I felt like there had
3 to be some sort of coordination. At the end of
4 the hearing -- and I think you can look at the
5 documents. I encourage everybody to look at the
6 documents that were submitted -- it appeared to
7 me that there was ex parte communications between
8 Judge Newman and an attorney, and I put that in a
9 motion to alter and amend because there was no
10 intervening fact from Judge Newman saying, That
11 was good. You did good, or words to that effect,
12 and the attorney subsequently saying, Right,
13 right. Well, that right is wrong. We cannot
14 have that sort of backdoor communication,
15 particularly in our Supreme Court. It is
16 unconscionable that that sort of activity
17 happens. Ironically, based on some different
18 things in the Family Court case, I was -- I was
19 randomly chosen for jury duty. During that jury
20 duty process, Judge Newman was very jovial in her
21 demeanor during voir dire. In my opinion, it was
22 downplaying the significant and important voir
23 dire process, as if the man who was charged --
24 had very serious charges against him. In my
25 opinion, her demeanor during that proceeding

1 downplayed the significance and the importance of
2 being on a jury where a man is -- is -- is
3 fighting for his life. We've had some very
4 public issues with the 5th Circuit Solicitor's
5 Office where people were granted basically early
6 out of jail time. We've got to get the judiciary
7 thinking about the decisions that they make
8 because I'm just a normal citizen, and I should
9 be able to file a motion to have a continuance if
10 I have a business meeting out of town without
11 waiting until there is a conflict because if I
12 have a business meeting out of town, there
13 already is a conflict. That's one thing. I
14 really would like for -- and I'm gonna do this
15 through the whole legislative thing. We've got
16 to automate the scheduling of these cases for the
17 judiciary. We've got to do some legislation to
18 automate it so that they cannot be manipulated
19 because currently, it is my position, that it
20 appears that there is manipulation of when cases,
21 when hearings are scheduled for the benefit of
22 some and the detriment of others. We've got to
23 allow participants, litigants like me, to --
24 REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD: Mr. Chairman, is this the
25 complaint or is this now a policy consideration

1 as to what the General Assembly should be doing?

2 SENATOR TALLEY: Hold on, ma'am, just a second.

3 MS. MEISNER: Yes, sir.

4 SENATOR TALLEY: Yes. I think she speaks to that in
5 her affidavit.

6 MS. MEISNER: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

7 SENATOR TALLEY: I would remind you though, obviously -
8 - and I hear what you're saying, and I'm gonna
9 give you latitude to say what you need to say,
10 but we're not here to discuss policy today.
11 We're here to discuss this candidate and the nine
12 evaluative criteria that this Commission is
13 charged with evaluating.

14 MS. MEISNER: Yes, sir. Thank you. And to
15 Representative Rutherford's point, if I were
16 allowed by law to record the proceedings on Webex
17 myself when I gave my judicial merit selection
18 objections, I would have been able to provide you
19 with a recording that the Webex -- I believe I
20 requested that you seek the Webex recording --

21 MS. MEISNER: Now, what is concerning to me --

22 SENATOR TALLEY: Just so you're aware, Counsel has that
23 and has reviewed that and has briefed us on same.

24 MS. MEISNER: And -- and to my next point, I don't
25 know at what point the recording ended. Whether

1 it contained that conversation or not.

2 MR. HINSON: It did.

3 MS. MEISNER: It did contain the conversation? So
4 that's just one example. Thank you. Thank you
5 for getting that. That makes me feel better that
6 you got that recording, but that's one example.
7 There's times when people go into Family Court,
8 they go into other things. We need to be able to
9 record things. Not to diminish the --

10 SENATOR TALLEY: Okay.

11 MS. MEISNER: -- ability --

12 SENATOR TALLEY: Ms. Meisner, we're here to talk about
13 Judge Newman.

14 MS. MEISNER: Okay. All right. Anyway, I do believe
15 that absolute judicial immunity needs to be
16 removed when there is evidence of ex parte
17 communications that indicate corrupt processes,
18 and I'm talking about corruption from the
19 standpoint of not only the processes -- the
20 individual processes, I'm talking about
21 scheduling the hearings. I'm talking about the
22 whole system.

23 SENATOR TALLEY: Again --

24 MS. MEISNER: Yes.

25 SENATOR TALLEY: Focus on anything you want us to hear

1 --

2 MS. MEISNER: Regarding --

3 SENATOR TALLEY: -- other than what you have already
4 submitted in regard to the qualifications we're
5 here to evaluate for Judge Newman.

6 MS. MEISNER: So --

7 SENATOR TALLEY: And I hope you see from what I've
8 said, Counsel has done a thorough review of what
9 you submitted. I know more than one person has
10 reviewed the Webex recording. It does contain
11 start to finish. We've been briefed on all of
12 that. So if you have anything else to add, we're
13 happy to hear it.

14 MS. MEISNER: I would just say that I would voice my
15 opposition for Judge Newman on the Supreme Court
16 based on my interactions with her in Circuit
17 Court and I believe that that is, in my opinion -
18 - that's all I want to say is -- is I feel like
19 that in that sit -- in that one situation, the
20 hearing situation, not only was I not afforded a
21 continuance, I wasn't able to hear properly. I
22 had to get the audiovisual people in control. I
23 asked for another hearing. I asked for a
24 continuance that day. It was not granted. It
25 was -- it was set during a time period where I

1 barely had time to make the motion and serve the
2 other people. So I think that -- that that
3 control over that process is something that I
4 believe indicates, to me, a corrupt process, and
5 I believe that our Supreme Court deserves better
6 than that because one day, any of us can be
7 before the Supreme Court and we've got to make
8 sure that those jurists are honest and ethical.
9 They may not like me. Lot of people, you know,
10 get mad when I come up and complain about things,
11 but that shouldn't matter. You know, justice
12 should be blind, and so that is all I would say.
13 And I again thank you for your indulgence. I
14 know Representative Rutherford's gonna be mad at
15 me and say something, but this is the process
16 y'all created. You screen my affidavits prior to
17 coming in here so you could not let me speak if
18 it was not appropriate. And people that
19 complained about Representative Rutherford using
20 the airplane, I defended him.

21 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. We're -- we're way off
22 topic now.

23 MS. MEISNER: I know, but I defended him --

24 SENATOR TALLEY: I've given you a lot of latitude this
25 morning, but we appreciate you being here. I

1 have let you be heard.

2 MS. MEISNER: Thank you, and I do appreciate it.

3 SENATOR TALLEY: I am a defender of this process and
4 always will be, and you have been able to
5 participate pursuant to our rules. So thank you
6 very much.

7 MS. MEISNER: Thank you very much. I appreciate being
8 here.

9 SENATOR TALLEY: Yes, ma'am. Judge Newman, if you
10 would come back. I'll give you the opportunity,
11 if you wish, to respond to that. If not, I will
12 turn you over to counsel for some questions.

13 JUDGE NEWMAN: Yes, sir. I would like to respond.
14 Ms. Meisner is referring to a comment that I made
15 during a Webex hearing involving a number of
16 attorneys. The comment was made to Attorney
17 "Ward" Edward Bradley, and I -- frankly, I thank
18 her for bringing it to my attention because I
19 regret having made the comment. I said something
20 -- at the conclusion of the hearing, I said
21 something along the lines of, Good job, Mr.
22 Bradley. I regret the comment, not because there
23 was anything nefarious about it, but because it
24 evidently gave a member of the public reason to
25 question the process, question whether there was

1 some ex parte communications. I have -- I -- I
2 am the one that actually obtained the video and
3 offered it to Mr. Hinson, Ms. Crawford, Ms.
4 Putnam, and watching that hearing from beginning
5 to end, you will see that Ward Bradley does not
6 participate in the hearing whatsoever, the
7 attorney in question. He, in fact, never unmutes
8 his computer as the hearing -- the motion in
9 question had nothing to do with his client. And
10 so, when I made the comment at the conclusion of
11 the hearing, it was made in jest. I said, Good
12 argument, or Good job, or something like that
13 jokingly because he had never even spoken during
14 the hearing. Again, I regret the comment because
15 obviously it gave Ms. Meisner and maybe others
16 reason to question the integrity of the process.
17 I don't know if I need to speak to the motion for
18 continuance. I know that we are not re-
19 litigating anything, but I will say she made a
20 comment about my policy in general regarding
21 protection for vacation times and things like
22 that. The very reason that I do not grant
23 blanket protection for people taking vacations or
24 going to conferences because that in itself is an
25 ex parte process, and I used to do it until I

1 reached a point in a particular case where
2 someone sought protection, they had a date
3 certain trial, and the moment protection was
4 given, the other 12 or 15 attorneys on the case
5 objected because it's an ex parte procedure. I
6 require people to file motions for continuance
7 because I'm trying to avoid the ex parte nature
8 of blanket motions for continuance. As far as
9 the jury issue that she mentioned, I have
10 research, I've spoken to the Clerk's office, and
11 located the time frame, the week that Ms. Meisner
12 had jury duty. It was a week in which I was
13 scheduled to preside over Common Pleas trials.
14 Apparently Ms. Meisner was involved in a General
15 Sessions matter, but I was there that Monday
16 morning to qualify the jury, to ask the statutory
17 questions of the members of the jury pool, and
18 when I am doing that, I have no idea what trials
19 may be going on in General Sessions or other --
20 otherwise in the building. So it certainly was
21 an intent -- was not an intent for me to make
22 light of someone's serious charges. I would not
23 have even known that anyone was facing serious
24 charges in a criminal matter. I greet the jury.
25 They are the -- I am the first judge they see

1 that Monday morning, and I am keenly aware that
2 we have taken citizens from their jobs, their
3 homes, their families, schooling, etc., and I
4 greet those jurors in a lighthearted manner and
5 with a friendly face and it is never my intention
6 to make light of the process, only to ensure the
7 comfort of the jurors, the citizens, in that
8 courtroom. And I'm happy to answer any questions
9 if I've left anything out, but that's all I would
10 have to say.

11 SENATOR TALLEY: Thank you. Senator Saab.

12 SENATOR SAAB: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and Judge
13 Newman. It's interesting, when you were talking
14 about the jurors and assembling and the
15 lightheartedness; and of course, I've practiced
16 law for a number of years, but did you know that
17 I was called to jury service two weeks ago, and -
18 - so to some folk's surprise, I actually appeared
19 and Judge Cothran was there. It would surprise
20 you to know that he greeted us in a lighthearted
21 manner, and had us all laughing at least three
22 times while we were there, just in his response
23 to the various things that are going on with the
24 jurors. And so -- and so as a lawyer who's
25 familiar with the process, I mean, I get it all,

1 but I also understand how someone who is not that
2 familiar with the process might think that we're
3 making lightheartedness of something that
4 obviously is very serious, but all the demeanors
5 and everything sort of changes when we get into
6 the trial at the close of the qualification part.
7 So I just thought it was interesting to hear you
8 talk about it and also to listen to Ms. Meisner
9 talk about it and my having experienced it as a
10 juror. Of course, I ended up being transferred
11 because we were still in session, but I look
12 forward to service at some point if the lawyers
13 would have me to be on whatever the cases it is.

14 JUDGE NEWMAN: Yes, sir. That would not surprise me
15 at all because, as I said, my goal -- it -- it's
16 certainly food for thought because I don't want
17 to give anyone the impression that Ms. Meisner
18 had, but the intention, you know -- and it
19 doesn't surprise me that Judge Cothran behaved in
20 a similar fashion. The intention is to warmly
21 welcome the citizens to the county. I think it's
22 even slightly different in larger counties such
23 as Richland versus Williamsburg County where in
24 Williamsburg, there's a -- one small courthouse,
25 one courtroom, and you go immediately from jury

1 qualification into voir dire and the next thing
2 happens, versus Richland County is a much larger
3 building. A judge enters the courtroom like
4 myself, does the qualification process. We leave
5 the body and then, you know, they return to a
6 jury assembly room and then smaller pools are
7 divided up amongst the courtrooms. And Ms.
8 Meisner, I believe, it would have been Judge Hood
9 that week. She would have been in a smaller
10 group of people, maybe 40 or 50, in a separate
11 courtroom, with a separate judge, doing voir dire
12 for that particular criminal trial. And so I
13 just think that -- you know, I -- I've never
14 considered what Ms. Meisner said, but again, I
15 think her bringing it to my attention, it's
16 certainly food for thought. I would hope that
17 the more staccato nature of the process in the
18 larger counties would lessen some of that
19 feeling, you know, maybe in a different way than
20 in smaller county, but in any event, that's
21 certainly not my intention.

22 SENATOR TALLEY: Ms. Blackley.

23 MS. BLACKLEY: Good morning.

24 JUDGE NEWMAN: Good morning.

25 MS. BLACKLEY: As a former clerk of court who was in

1 charge of bringing jurors in a -- more of a
2 larger county, I would just encourage you to
3 continue to be open. The -- I can tell you, as
4 the first official person or courts now that
5 jurors meet, they are very nervous, a lot of them
6 don't want to be there, they're missing time off
7 of work when that -- you know, depending on what
8 county, you're getting, what, 15 to \$20 an hour,
9 and then most people worried about how they gonna
10 pay their bills that week if they're selected.
11 There's a lot of fears to calm, and I think being
12 open and inviting and even joking, which I have
13 seen multiple judges do who are doing
14 qualifications, it is necessary and needed and
15 probably, in particular, more in smaller
16 counties. So I would encourage you to continue
17 to be that way. Everybody has a different
18 opinion in representing how they feel, and we
19 will always honor that and respect that, however,
20 overall, coming to the court of law as a citizen
21 who goes about their lives and you're
22 experiencing something that most people see on TV
23 and have already these misconceptions, I would
24 like to see judges across the board ease some of
25 those fears, especially if you're not

1 knowledgeable of the court system. So I would
2 encourage you to continue to be that way because
3 not everybody feels comfortable even coming in,
4 and when you can get a judge who is open and
5 being cordial to them and welcoming them, even
6 telling a joke here or there, doesn't mean you
7 don't take your job seriously and that the cases
8 aren't important because they are, but we need to
9 make sure our juror are feeling comfortable when
10 they walk into a courthouse. So I wanted that on
11 the record.

12 JUDGE NEWMAN: Thank you.

13 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. Thank you. Representative
14 Rutherford.

15 REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD: So I was really minding my
16 own business, listening to the session, when I
17 heard my name invoked and I thought that Ms.
18 Meisner was going to talk about where she and I
19 agree. And Judge Newman knows that I disagree
20 with the policy of not granting continuances as a
21 policy, and had she been present throughout my
22 ten years on this panel, I've talked to multiple
23 judges about policies against giving lawyers
24 continuances, allowing them to know when things
25 can be scheduled, and I've talked to Judge Newman

1 about that. And I disagree with that and I agree
2 with Ms. Meisner that we should not have policies
3 against people granting continuances because they
4 do have to schedule things and that can get in
5 the way if it's a policy. If I were in the
6 Solicitor's Office, I can just take off and let
7 some other solicitor come in. If I'm in a large
8 law firm, I can do that, but as a sole
9 practitioner, I can't and it's demanding on us.
10 And so policies against continuances I don't
11 think should be the order of the day. But I did
12 hear Judge Newman apologize to Ms. Meisner
13 because of the perception that a comment made at
14 the end of a hearing could be taken out of
15 context. The problem is that in the video and in
16 the interchange between you and the lawyer,
17 simply stating to someone at the end of a hearing
18 that they did a good job when they clearly didn't
19 open their mouth, is not evidence of corruption.
20 And I don't know how I got to not like the
21 complaint process. My former client has come in
22 and complained and we heard it and dealt with it.
23 I've nothing against the complaint process, but I
24 do have something against the use of the word
25 corruption, the belief that when things don't go

1 your way, that is evidence of corruption or a
2 system that is broken. One of the things that
3 you will learn being a lawyer and how sometimes
4 things are funny because you laugh to keep from
5 crying, it doesn't mean that the system is broken
6 and that judges and lawyers are corrupt. And to
7 accuse a judge, to accuse the lawyer in that case
8 of having ex parte in a judge without any
9 evidence whatsoever but a statement at the end of
10 a hearing, to me is wrong, and to me does create
11 a problem because people use adjectives that
12 describe a situation that I don't even know
13 whether you were successful, but that doesn't
14 mean that everybody else is corrupt. And I guess
15 now because I agree with you on one thing and
16 disagree with you on another, maybe now I am
17 corrupt because I'm not agreeing with you.
18 Adjectives matter, words matter. Judges can't
19 defend themselves typically until they come in
20 this room, and so placing a title on someone and
21 calling them corrupt and putting them in a
22 situation like this where you would love to
23 scream from the top of your lungs, I don't do
24 that. I wouldn't have an ex parte hearing with
25 that lawyer or any other lawyer. I wouldn't do

1 that. I would have never said something to them
2 if I would've known it would've offended someone,
3 won't change the fact that now someone has come
4 in this room and called you corrupt. And that
5 part of the process does bother me. I think it's
6 possible to complain about something without
7 using adjectives and people now know that this
8 body has the ability to check behind litigants
9 and look at videos that even they don't have
10 access to, that they will examine it because it
11 matters. It mattered that someone complained.
12 It mattered enough to us to dig behind and -- dig
13 behind you and get more than even you had to
14 verify the authenticity of what you were saying
15 and see whether there was something there because
16 it does matter, but it also matters the words
17 that are used to describe the people that stand
18 in front of us. And so to Ms. Meisner, I agree
19 with you on the part about not granting blanket
20 continuances, but I disagree with how we go about
21 calling people corrupt when we don't get our way.
22 So thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 SENATOR TALLEY: Thank you, sir. Mr. Safran.

24 MR. SAFRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Judge, I don't
25 think I've even ever appeared in front of you.

1 JUDGE NEWMAN: No, sir.

2 MR. SAFRAN: But I was a juror sitting there when you
3 came in and did exactly the same thing, and I did
4 not see anything out of the norm. I mean,
5 candidly, you asked the questions that had to be
6 asked, and basically I didn't feel like anything
7 short of what you described. People are there.
8 They're not necessarily wanting to be there.
9 They are in a very awkward experience at times,
10 and so, you know, you gotta give them some sense
11 that they're appreciated in the context.
12 Switching gears, I take a little exception to the
13 idea that during the time at least I've been on
14 this, that we have not listened to a complaint.
15 There are now some judges who are no longer on
16 the bench because we did listen to complaint. So
17 the notion that this is basically a rubber stamp
18 is far from the truth. The thing is is that when
19 I hear it -- too many times, maybe is because of
20 a certain naivete or lack of understanding by
21 some folks who come in here and expect that we
22 are someone that can create or more importantly
23 to correct all errors that have occurred
24 potentially during the process. And I think
25 we've tried to explain again and again we are not

1 here to change outcomes that have already gone
2 through a very defined process. That if you're
3 not happy at the first level, you got plenty of
4 ways to go. And I guess the thing is is it -- to
5 echo what Representative Rutherford says is this,
6 certainly we, as lawyers, have again and again,
7 over the course of any length of career, run into
8 decisions that we didn't like. And I don't think
9 that necessarily every time that happens the word
10 corruption pops into your mind. You know, there
11 are other words that might come in, and frankly,
12 you know, in my day, I think when I started out
13 40 years ago, I was told you got 24 hours, maybe
14 48, to get it out of your gut, but after that,
15 it's over. Okay. You move on. And I can tell
16 you clearly I've had judges rule against me and I
17 didn't like it a bit, and frankly, some of them I
18 felt vindicated on in appeal. Sometimes it
19 didn't, but the bottom line is it doesn't mean
20 that I lose respect for them just because of that
21 ruling. It doesn't mean that I automatically
22 think there's something going on behind the
23 curtain. So what I want to make clear is is that
24 while certainly, if we feel as lawyers that way,
25 I can absolutely understand and empathize with a

1 non-lawyer who doesn't get the way they want it
2 and who comes in and says, Hey, wait a minute.
3 This just was not right. I think, again, you --
4 it's not that simple of an equation. And so all
5 due respect to Ms. Meisner, I know you've been
6 through a lot. We've seen you multiple times and
7 I understand you've had litigation that has gone
8 on in multiple forums and that it has been
9 anything but pleasant and I empathize to some
10 extent with you on that, but I think what --
11 again, people sometimes fail to understand this
12 process. As we sit here, we are looking for
13 criteria that is pretty well defined, and we are
14 also looking for something that, as
15 practitioners, I think would be pretty obvious if
16 you see it and I think we've recognized over time
17 when we've seen it, that we've done something
18 about it. And so again, I'm not going to -- I'm
19 not trying to have any righteous indignation
20 about it, but by the same token, I want the
21 public to understand that, yes, you are heard,
22 not just here, but you're heard in court.
23 Everybody can't win, and I'm the worst loser that
24 ever existed, at least for certain periods of
25 time. I hate it. Hate it, but I also have to

1 recognize there's a system, there are ways to
2 deal within the system, and you know, my attitude
3 is and I'm assuming Ms. Meisner feels similarly,
4 that as long as I feel in the cause, I'll stay on
5 it 'til the last breath. But by the same token,
6 that doesn't mean that we necessarily cast
7 dispersions on the ones who are charged with
8 making the decision. I've said it a million
9 times, we -- all we're asking and all we're
10 trying to provide are judges that are competent
11 and honest. They ain't perfect. Can't do it.
12 The system is made recognizing there is
13 imperfection. That's why we've got these
14 appellate processes. So again, just that -- I
15 just want to make sure the air is clear on that
16 because I don't like sometimes for the black
17 cloud that seems to come in over here when people
18 come in and say to somebody who doesn't deserve
19 it, you know, they did wrong. I know exactly
20 what you did on that day. I mean, it -- you're
21 right. Maybe in hindsight, I won't do it next
22 time, but it was joking. I've had it happen in
23 my situation before. I mean, it -- it's not
24 something that I would have ever accused anybody
25 of doing something unethical by making a comment

1 like that. And so just for the record, those are
2 my thoughts and thank you.

3 JUDGE NEWMAN: Yes. Thank you, sir.

4 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. So we've heard the
5 complaint, the affidavit has been submitted in
6 the record, and we will do with that pursuant to
7 our Commission rules. We're now gonna go back to
8 Mr. Hinson who has some questions as part of our
9 screening process.

10 JUDGE NEWMAN: Yes, sir.

11 MR. HINSON: Good morning, Judge Newman.

12 JUDGE NEWMAN: Morning.

13 MR. HINSON: Chairman, I note for the record that
14 based on the testimony contained in the
15 candidate's PDQ, which has been included in the
16 record with the candidate's consent, Judge Newman
17 meets the constitutional and statutory
18 requirements for this position regarding age,
19 residence, and years of practice.

20 EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. HINSON:

22 **Q. Judge Newman, why do you want to serve as a judge on**
23 **the Supreme Court?**

24 A. It is an opportunity to further my career and, as I
25 said earlier, to serve in a different way. I am not

1 someone who ever wants to remain complacent. I like
2 to grow and change and learn, and so I think that now
3 is the time for me to go on and serve the state in a
4 different way. My father always talks about meeting
5 the moment when there is an opportunity, met with
6 preparation, and I am prepared to meet the moment.

7 **Q. Judge Newman, could you identify what you would**
8 **consider your greatest accomplishment as a lawyer or**
9 **judge or even outside of that arena, and please**
10 **explain why.**

11 A. My greatest accomplishment. That's a good question.
12 Something I've never really thought about. I am,
13 frankly, proud of the job that I do every day. I am
14 proud of, I think, with what -- the demeanor that I
15 feel appropriate of a judge on the bench. I am -- I
16 am thrilled that so many attorneys believe me to be a
17 lawyer's judge, as they say, and the compliments I get
18 on, you know, allowing lawyers to try their case,
19 allowing people to be heard, and treating people with
20 kindness and respect. That's my only goal. And to
21 handle all cases, all matters as fairly and justly as
22 I possibly can with whatever study, research,
23 argument, etc. is necessary. I feel that I do that in
24 the best way that I know how and I'm proud of the job
25 that I've done.

1 Q. Thank you. Judge Newman, is there an area of the law
2 that you would bring to the Supreme Court bench that
3 you believe would be an asset to the court?

4 A. Not a particular area of the law necessarily. I think
5 all of the justices are well versed in all areas of
6 the law. I certainly would be the one most recently
7 in the trenches in the trial court, which I think is
8 appropriate and necessary for a Supreme Court justice,
9 not to forget what it is to be in the courtroom and
10 practice law. So many of the decisions they make are
11 based on procedural elements of cases and the way
12 people interact in the courtroom, and having
13 experience with that, being intimately involved in
14 that, and bringing that to the table is necessary I
15 believe.

16 Q. Judge Newman, how would you describe your general
17 judicial philosophy?

18 A. My general philosophy is to remain pleasant and to
19 remain curious, to not pre-judge matters that appear
20 before me. You know, we all have life experiences, we
21 all have professional experiences, and it can be easy
22 to feel that you know the answer before you've even
23 heard the argument. My goal is always to remain
24 curious, to listen to the parties, to do the research
25 necessary, and make a sound and just decision.

1 Q. Judge Newman, what is your vision for the future of
2 our judicial system and what changes would you
3 advocate for and why?

4 A. My hope is that there is -- that we gain additional
5 public confidence in the judiciary. It seems to be
6 sort of a roller coaster over time that sometimes
7 there is this public confidence and then, certain
8 things happen, certain newsworthy events that question
9 the public's confidence in the judiciary. My hope and
10 my goal would be for every citizen to, as best they
11 can, feel that they've been heard, that we have a --
12 yeah, a fair and just process. I think that
13 transparency in some of the things we do can go a long
14 way towards promoting that confidence.

15 Q. Thank you. And that kind of segues into my next
16 question which was what steps do you think can be
17 taken to accomplish that goal of instilling public
18 trust?

19 A. Absolutely. Increasing transparency in the process,
20 and I don't have any specific suggestions. I don't
21 want to comment on something that I'm not particularly
22 intimately involved with, but there are complaints all
23 the time from the public about lack of transparency in
24 disciplinary proceedings and things like that. I
25 think that that is part of what undermines public

1 confidence in the process. Outside of a process like
2 this, with Ms. Meisner here for example, you know,
3 people don't necessarily know that their complaints
4 have been heard. They have to trust that something is
5 happening behind the scenes and maybe their
6 disciplinary complaint is dismissed without a hearing,
7 dismissed with -- you know, things like that, and they
8 feel that they've not been heard. I think it
9 contributes to the public confidence when people know
10 that they have been heard, and transparency will go a
11 long way with that.

12 **Q. Thank you. Judge Newman, what do you -- what extent**
13 **do you believe that a judge or should not defer to the**
14 **actions of the General Assembly?**

15 A. Judge should always defer to the actions of the
16 General Assembly. Our purpose is to interpret the
17 intent of the legislature. We don't make laws. We
18 just interpret what has already been done. I do think
19 that there is a good relationship of checks and
20 balances where certainly the Court reviews certain
21 legislation. The Court often makes decisions to
22 highlight certain deficiencies in legislation that has
23 been passed, but it -- it's sort of a marriage in that
24 way, but the judiciary should never overstep its
25 bounds. Separation of powers is the foundation of our

1 government, and so we should not invade the province
2 of the Legislature.

3 **Q. And Judge, when do you believe that it is appropriate**
4 **to write a concurring or dissenting opinion?**

5 A. Well, I think that a lot of the decisions made by the
6 appellate courts are -- particularly the Supreme
7 Court, are on novel issues, that sort of -- a lot of
8 what the Court considers in granting writs of
9 certiorari, right. And so when there is a new take, a
10 new set of facts where the Court has to apply sort of
11 existing law in a new way, that's what the Supreme
12 Court does in large part, and so I think it'd be
13 appropriate to write a dissent when -- when simply the
14 justice believes that there is, I guess, already
15 guidance for that issue and I'm not articulating this
16 very well, but you know, what we see is new sets of
17 facts with existing laws typically. But those very
18 often can be analogous to other sets of facts that
19 we've seen, and I don't know why I can't articulate
20 this, but in that case, where the judge has a point to
21 make, where it is rooted in other existing case law
22 precedent, etc., I think a dissent would be
23 appropriate. Concurring decisions, I'm not so big on
24 concurrences actually, but it -- when you reach the
25 same result for a different reason, I think a

1 concurring opinion is appropriate.

2 **Q. And as a follow up to that, are there any dangers to**
3 **writing a concurring or dissenting opinion?**

4 **A.** As a trial court judge, I see the danger being the
5 attorneys citing those opinion very often, and you
6 sort of give people food for thought and you can
7 either spawn new arguments in that way or really,
8 practically speaking, attorneys go to that language so
9 much and try to get inside the justices' heads and try
10 to make those arguments to the trial court when that,
11 in fact, is not the law of the case, but I think they
12 often think they're on to something and want to
13 extract a new way of thinking from the trial court and
14 push the trial court in different directions.

15 **Q. Judge Newman, the Commission received 817 ballot box**
16 **surveys regarding you with 159 additional comments.**
17 **The ballot box survey contained the following positive**
18 **comments: Judge Newman is extremely experienced,**
19 **smart, and thoughtful. We need to see more judges**
20 **like Judge Newman. She has seen it all and would be**
21 **an excellent Supreme Court justice. Judge Newman**
22 **would be an excellent choice for the Supreme Court.**
23 **She is smart, qualified, and has the temperament to be**
24 **a justice. Some of the written comments did raise**
25 **concerns. One area of concern was lack of overall**

1 **appellate experience to be on the Supreme Court. How**
2 **would you respond to that?**

3 A. Well, the circuit court serves as an appellate court
4 for the lower courts. For the summary courts, that's
5 magistrate and municipal courts. We always -- we also
6 serve in an appellate function for certain probate
7 court decisions. And so I think it's maybe not so
8 intuitive of a trial attorney, but the circuit court
9 does quite a bit of appellate work, actually.

10 **Q. Thank you. Another area of concern was centered**
11 **around timeliness to issue orders and ability from**
12 **lawyers to reach you regarding scheduling. How would**
13 **you respond to this concern?**

14 A. Most recently, I have been without a law clerk since
15 December of last year. And so some of the difficulty
16 or the timeliness and -- or lack of timeliness in
17 responding to attorneys is due to that staffing issue.
18 As far as orders, there are just a large volume of
19 things that need to be done. We of course, lost Judge
20 Benjamin to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals last
21 year. Judge Lee followed soon after with her
22 retirement. My father, who did a good bit of work in
23 the Fifth Circuit, has now retired as well. And so
24 we're down a number of judges. Even with Judge
25 Manning retiring at the end of 2022, certainly, Judge

1 Coble replaced him and -- but needed some time to get
2 up to speed. He had to go through his training and
3 all of that. And so I say that to say that there is
4 the same volume of work in Richland County for a
5 smaller number of judges, which, frankly, causes some
6 delay in the process. There's a large volume of work
7 to do with -- it feels like, oftentimes, one person to
8 do it. I mean, like I said, Judge Coble had been in
9 training for a good period of time. Judge Hood is
10 chief administrative judge for general sessions, which
11 keeps him very, very busy. And so there's a lot of
12 work to be done, and I'm doing my best.

13 **Q. Thank you. Lastly, there were concerns raising your**
14 **overall temperament towards litigants. How would you**
15 **respond to that?**

16 A. I am surprised that that was a concern. As I said, I
17 try to give a pleasant demeanor. In fact, I've been
18 criticized for my pleasant demeanor, and I really do
19 try to give everyone the opportunity to be heard,
20 whether those are attorneys, pro se litigants. Even
21 jurors who have concerns at the end of a trial, I
22 listen and like to think that I'm generally pleasant.
23 You know, I've been criticized on more than one
24 occasion for my smile, particularly when I'm in
25 general sessions court. There's an attorney that used

1 to joke that, Don't be fooled by that smile. She's
2 still give you a life sentence with that smile. You
3 know, I'm generally conversational and pleasant, so
4 that comment actually surprises me.

5 **Q. And Judge Newman, for the record and for today's**
6 **purposes, what is your view on ex parte communication?**

7 A. Ex parte communication should be avoided when at all
8 possible. Certainly, there are times that we can't
9 control that an attorney approaches us, I receive a
10 text message or an email or something like that.
11 Nothing that I would've instigated. But it's
12 inappropriate. It undermines the public's confidence
13 in the attorneys' and litigants confidence in the
14 fairness and impartiality of our system.

15 **Q. And Judge Newman, on a handful of occasions, you've**
16 **been reversed in whole or in part by the appellate**
17 **courts, most notably Owens v Stirling. Is there any**
18 **context you want to add to that opinion or any other**
19 **opinions that the appellate courts have remanded or**
20 **reversed?**

21 A. Sure. I think that my reversal rate is pretty
22 minimal, given the number of cases that I've heard.
23 Owens versus Stirling, in particular, concerned the
24 death penalty and the constitutionality of the methods
25 of execution used by South Carolina. I would note

1 that I was only reversed in part. The Supreme Court
2 did not reach the ultimate issue of the
3 constitutionality of those methods of execution. The
4 reversal was as to a discovery issue that, frankly,
5 doesn't give me any heartburn whatsoever. In that
6 case, we were given a pretty tight timeline -- we
7 being myself and the attorneys involved -- were given
8 a pretty tight timeline to get discovery done and the
9 trial done, because these are -- there are four
10 plaintiffs who are on death row and, you know, there
11 were stays of execution issued by the Supreme Court,
12 but certainly, the state has an interest in following
13 through with those executions. So because of that, we
14 were given a pretty short timeline. And so in the
15 first instance, I did what I thought was appropriate
16 to stick within that timeline. The Supreme Court
17 reversed me on that discovery issue, remanded the case
18 to allow the attorneys to do additional discovery,
19 which, frankly, I thought was appropriate. I'm happy
20 about it. I think the attorneys are happy about it.
21 Because the most information that the attorneys and I
22 can have about the issue, the better.

23 **Q. Thank you. I would note that the Midlands Citizens**
24 **Committee reported that Judge Newman is qualified in**
25 **the evaluative criteria of constitutional**

1 qualifications, physical health and mental stability,
2 and well qualified in the criteria of ethical fitness,
3 professional and academic ability, character,
4 reputation, experience and judicial temperament. I
5 just have a few housekeeping questions for you. Since
6 submitting your Letter of Intent to run for this seat,
7 have you contacted any members of the Commission about
8 your candidacy?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Are you familiar with Section 2-19-70, including
11 limitations on contacting members of the General
12 Assembly regarding your screening?

13 A. I am.

14 Q. Since submitting your Letter of Intent, have you
15 sought or received a pledge of any legislator either
16 prior to this date or pending the outcome of your
17 screening?

18 A. No, sir.

19 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
20 the General Assembly on your behalf, or are you aware
21 of anyone attempting to intervene in the process on
22 your behalf?

23 A. No, sir.

24 MR. HINSON: I would note for the record that any
25 concerns raised during the investigation

1 orders of protection, blanket orders of protection. I
2 actually wanted to correct Mr. Rutherford earlier. He
3 mentioned orders for a continuance or motion for a
4 continuance. I routinely grant consent motions for
5 continuance all the time. That alleviates my concern,
6 because that's no longer an ex parte issue, it's not
7 someone trying to go to Disneyland when they're
8 supposed to be in a deposition or a trial with five
9 experts that have come from out of town that
10 everyone's been planning for weeks. That's the issue
11 with the orders of protection. Frankly, I think that
12 the BAR's pilot program, or the Supreme Court, I don't
13 know -- the pilot program with secure leave helps with
14 that issue. But frankly, there's nowhere in any rule
15 book, any statute book that you will find orders of
16 protection. They're so voluminous and it's very
17 difficult for the court to manage anyone's vacation
18 schedule, and I don't know that the court should have
19 to, particularly, where there are other attorneys,
20 other parties involved, who may have some interest in
21 moving the case forward. But if everyone consents to
22 the continuance, I'll sign off on it, absolutely.

23 **Q. I appreciate that clarification. Thank you --**

24 **A. Yes.**

25 **Q. -- very much.**

1 A. Thank you.

2 SENATOR TALLEY: Mr. Strom.

3 MR. STROM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. STROM:

6 Q. Good morning, Judge.

7 A. Good morning.

8 Q. As you know, I'm a huge fan of yours. I was delighted
9 to see you offer. But I was concerned about what I
10 was going to see at the ballot box. Because I've
11 heard a lot of these same comments. We've got 159
12 comments, 43 were negative. And in my view, a lot of
13 this is self-inflicted. This -- you know, I get,
14 there was one or two cases where somebody asked for an
15 order of protection, was going on vacation, and they
16 may've abused the process. But I don't think it's the
17 best practice to throw out the baby with the bathwater
18 because one or two lawyers didn't appropriately handle
19 this. This is not an issue with any other judge or
20 any other circuit in the state. And you know, we're
21 talking about judicial temperament. I'm not sure
22 whether your unwillingness to do this isn't playing
23 over into people's view of temperament.

24 A. Okay.

25 Q. Everywhere else, you could get an order of protection

1 to go on vacation. People want to plan their
2 vacations. Work life is important. You know, to the
3 younger people, it's even more important. So I
4 strongly encourage you to revisit your thinking on
5 this and maybe talk to judges around the state in
6 other large circuits to see how they do it. And if
7 you've got one or two bad apples, as a lawyer who's
8 abusing it, address them, but don't punish every other
9 lawyer in the state. So I strongly encourage you. I
10 just don't like what I view as a self-inflicted
11 negative comments, and that's kind of what we're
12 getting here with it. And the second thing I'm
13 hearing is your orders that you're way behind on them.
14 And you're not the first person who found themselves
15 in this situation. Fifth Circuit's a big circuit, no
16 question. We've had a lot of retirement turnover, but
17 you've got to knock these things out. You know, it's
18 just slowing up the whole civil court. And it's not
19 fair that this is all on your plate, but it's on your
20 plate. And the older they get, the less you remember
21 about them, the harder it is to get it done. And
22 these are -- these things are fixable. You know, in
23 ten years, if you're back running for reelection,
24 whether it be the Supreme Court, you know, if you're
25 in Richland County, things happen here that you can't

1 control. You're going to set a bond at some point and
2 they're going to go out and they're going to commit
3 another crime, and that's going to go all over the
4 news, that's going to be all over our screening
5 paperwork. That may happen one time, it may happen
6 five times. And then all of a sudden, you've got all
7 this buildup of negative information that we're
8 dealing with. And those things you can't fix. I
9 mean, you got to do the best you can on setting bonds
10 and that's just -- a system needs to be there. But
11 things like getting your orders done on time and
12 working with lawyers on their work life are critical.
13 You got to -- I really -- I can't tell you how
14 strongly I want you to think about this and get this
15 straightened out. Okay?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. Thank you.

18 A. Yes, sir. I will say the orders is not for lack of
19 trying. I, yesterday, signed approximately 200
20 orders. But you know, it's not me not working on it,
21 but I -- your concern is well taken, particularly,
22 with the protection -- orders of protection. Yes,
23 sir, I'll consider --

24 Q. Thank you.

25 A. -- all that.

1 MR. STROM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 SENATOR TALLEY: Yes, sir. Mr. Rutherford and then
3 we've got Mr. Safran. Representative Rutherford.

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD:

6 Q. Going back to the orders of protection again, I don't
7 want to get the other side's consent. If they don't
8 like, they're not supposed to like me, they're my
9 adversary. If you don't believe me, read the letter
10 from the nine solicitors. Which is fine. I'm not
11 going to sign off on their doing stuff either. And so
12 that's the problem with continuance requests. I was
13 just on a Webex with Judge McCaslin trying to set a
14 trial date. And the first date she threw out, the
15 solicitor said, Oh, I got to be somewhere that day, so
16 don't do it then. And mind, you he has an office of
17 40 lawyers. One of them can cover it. But when those
18 of us that are smaller offices don't have that
19 ability, it really puts us in a box, especially
20 getting the other side's consent on something that
21 they're not going to consent to. And for those of us
22 that do criminal, at the last minute, as Your Honor
23 knows, most of the time, they just say, Oh, we're not
24 going to call that case, because we had a problem come
25 up in the morning. They have that ability, we don't.

1 And so that's why it's just patently unfair for us to
2 have to make a continuance request rather than a
3 blanket order of protection so that we can do things
4 with our families that may be none of their business.
5 I can't tell you how many times I've filed a blanket
6 order or protection and the order of protection said
7 what it is that I was going to do, and then 20
8 comments about, oh, you're going here or you're going
9 there. Well, ain't your business. You know, I don't
10 get to ask you that. And so, at some point, it is
11 patently unfair to me to put us in a position where we
12 can't ask for orders of protection. And as far as a
13 backlog goes -- Mr. Strom brought that up -- clearly,
14 this General Assembly does not care about the backlog
15 in Richland County. We had the opportunity to clear
16 that up and help get another judge there, and we chose
17 not go, and I'll be another year before we fill that
18 spot. So please don't pretend that a backlog in
19 Richland County is the problem. However, your own
20 backlog, in terms of orders and all -- Mr. Strom
21 mentioned that it is in the ballot box -- I would
22 suggest that we work as diligently as we can to get
23 that corrected.

24 A. Absolutely.

25 SENATOR TALLEY: Mr. Safran.

1 MS. SAFRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. SAFRAN:

4 Q. First, understand -- and I think this -- these
5 comments being made are not really a criticism.
6 They're really more of a kind of way to kind of give
7 you a helpful instruction. Because you know, the
8 thing is, is that we don't like seeing negative
9 comments. And if those negative comments are ones
10 that we can obviously realize are things that can be
11 eradicated pretty easily, that's why. Because you
12 know, whether it be this time or another time, if you
13 want to make a viable run at these things, those
14 things have to be addresses. Because we can't ignore
15 them. That's the practical truth of it. As far as it
16 relates to the protection, I understand that, as a
17 judge, you see people that come in and, after the
18 fact, you'll say, You know what? They've really kind
19 of abused this situation. They really jerked me on
20 this, okay, and it ticks you off and you remember it.
21 I mean, that's, unfortunately, the problem is that
22 those situations are ones that don't go away. And it
23 bothers you because you say, they're taking advantage
24 of my good nature. I get it. But we have stressed,
25 in the time I've been here, the need for lawyers to be

1 able to work hard but maintain some life outside. And
2 it's become something that we have really focused on.
3 I'll never forget -- and I know we've talked about it
4 before, sitting here one time, a guy running for
5 judge, and he said, You know what? I've brought them
6 in to try these cases on the Saturday of the Carolina-
7 Clemson game. I'm sure they loved that. I mean,
8 needless to say, he was out the door before he quit
9 talking. Okay. So there's no punishment that's
10 necessary. I mean, and if you decide there is a
11 little bit of wood that needs to be laid to somebody,
12 that's what you take them in chambers for, and then I
13 think you tell them, Not going to happen anymore.
14 Now, we have to find some solution to that. One
15 reason that I quit doing circuit court work to any
16 extent is because I didn't like the way the scheduling
17 worked. And you know, I do a lot of comp now. One
18 reason is I get a day certain on every hearing I've
19 got. Another thing is I get flexibility in terms of
20 scheduling. If you got a legitimate reason to be able
21 to move something, you move it. When I have to come
22 over here, they have a central system that I write in
23 an email and say I need these days off, and I don't
24 have to say why. I usually do, but you -- it's a
25 central system. It goes in, the calendar's marked, it

1 doesn't even have to go in front of you. Basically,
2 those days are blocked off, so if a trial is supposed
3 to come up, automatically, bam, he's not available, we
4 got to find another day. I think if you're concerned
5 about an ex parte aspect to it, think about something
6 like that where you don't even have to really delve
7 into it, because somebody else is basically just
8 automatically making the determination. Now, if that
9 person's going in there time and again, then you step
10 in. But I think it really would behoove, really just
11 for fairness, that, basically, we have an opportunity
12 to be able to do it. And we stressed this word
13 yesterday a lot, reasonably, that you reasonably say,
14 Okay, you're an adult, I'm going to treat you like
15 one, you're a professional, you have obligations, I
16 get it. So just a thought for consideration.

17 A. Yes, sir.

18 Q. The other thing is this. I'm not going to jump on
19 anybody about letting things slide, getting a word
20 written, because I'm bad about that too, primarily,
21 because I know -- and you've got all these other
22 things going on day to day, as you do, and you
23 realize, just looking at this particular case, how
24 much time you're going to have to devote to writing
25 that order. It's all -- you know, kneejerk is, I'm

1 going to do this today. I'm going to do this, I'm
2 going to do this. But eventually, you come to the
3 realization, I got to do it. And I had that happen
4 recently and put a ton of hours in and just had to
5 carve it out. I know your obligations are far beyond
6 mine. Well, I think, again, take a step back and
7 remember when you were a lawyer and how those things
8 would sit, and you kind of go, Oh, man, you got a
9 client to answer to. On top of that, you've got a
10 situation where you're going, Hey, I'm going to have
11 to do something with this, I need it to come back.
12 And just -- Mr. Strom is right, because I've run into
13 this too. It happens to me when I go back to maybe do
14 one that's been sitting for a while or when I have
15 somebody who hasn't ruled, that stuff goes stale and
16 you can't remember the subtleties. And one thing that
17 I have, as far as basically these Webex arguments that
18 always seem to be going on now, and your motions and
19 your nonjury, is that I think being there, you can
20 really emphasize the subtle point, you can really hit
21 harder more meaningfully on things that maybe the
22 judge is kind of wavering on. I don't think it
23 translates well through the screen, I just don't. And
24 so I think basically, nobody, again, is criticizing
25 you, because I'm sure you got your hands full. But

1 again, I think all we're simply saying is -- again,
2 not a criticism, just I get it. It's something that I
3 do realize I got to do. And again, I'm the last
4 person to throw a stone on this. That's why I'm
5 saying it's more constructive than anything else. And
6 I appreciate your offering. And I hope, for Ms.
7 Meisner's sake, you know, that we do hear what people
8 say. That's why we're having these conversations.
9 Because, again, part of this process is remedial, that
10 we're trying to kind of figure out if we can't maybe
11 make a better system, make things -- nobody's
12 intentionally trying to do it. It's just the rigors
13 of the job force it sometimes. And so that's all it
14 is in terms of what we're bringing up today.

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. Thank you.

17 A. Thank you, sir.

18 SENATOR TALLEY: Senator Sabb.

19 SENATOR SABB: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 EXAMINATION

21 BY SENATOR SABB:

22 Q. I guess I would say I've got an appreciation for some
23 of my colleague's suggestions. But I was really happy
24 that you laid out the reasons why. In my view, it's -
25 - it's a reaction to what is -- what's clearly a

1 problem.

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. And I appreciate this process, when it comes to our
4 jurors, because it's a reflective point. It's an
5 opportunity to gauge another aspect of what we do.
6 And so I do think that these processes allow us
7 opportunities to enhance what we do and make
8 improvements where improvements are. I was extremely
9 pleased and impressed by the vast majority of the
10 comments that I saw, and I think those comments are
11 more reflective of your job duties and how seriously
12 you take them. I remember we did a screening of a
13 Richland County jurist, last time around -- or not so
14 long ago -- I'm getting older, so my days and weeks
15 and months run together -- but she had the same issue
16 with all of the orders and falling behind. And in my
17 view, you know, Richland County, Charleston, some of
18 these big areas, and I've sat in a number of these
19 nonjury days, and it's amazing to me how the judges
20 are -- obviously, you got to do it, but it's amazing
21 to me how they're called upon to go from this issue to
22 that issue to that issue to that issue to that issue.
23 I mean, it's a myriad of issues all day long, and
24 sometimes two days, and all of those are orders that
25 have to be written at some point. And I do think that

1 the absence of help, you know, lends itself to the
2 problem. But of course, lawyers and litigants have
3 zero interest in it. All they want is their matter
4 resolved. But I think those of us who are looking at
5 the process, we see something larger. But we got to
6 work within the confines of figuring out how to get it
7 done. And so I agree with Mr. Safran and I don't
8 believe that it's an indictment at all -- that's my
9 word, not his -- but I don't believe it's an
10 indictment at all in terms of your ability to grasp or
11 to handle all the matters that are before you on your
12 plate. And so I've marveled at your career. I've
13 been extremely proud of the manner in which you've
14 continued to conduct yourself, and I'm really happy
15 that you and five other highly qualified individuals
16 are offering for the court. And I think you all will
17 give us great problems. But I think those of us who
18 sit here, it's a good problem for us to have, in that
19 we've got such high level candidates that we have the
20 opportunity to choose from. So that's more of an
21 editorial than it is a comment. But I appreciate you
22 being here.

23 A. Yes, sir. Thank you.

24 SENATOR TALLEY: Senator Rankin.

25 EXAMINATION

1 BY SENATOR RANKIN:

2 Q. Judge, greetings. Nice to see you today. I saw you
3 last Friday sitting on the front row where you, like
4 the rest of us, sat in awe of the -- one of the best
5 commencement speeches I've ever had the pleasure of
6 attending and hearing. That, of course, for the world
7 and the two people that will watch this hereafter, my
8 son's graduation from law school. And I cannot tell
9 you the pride that I have for you to be there to hear
10 your dad, and the pride that I have -- and I'm going
11 to try not to get emotional -- but my parents who were
12 there for me in 1987, my father, a judge, retired
13 judge, to watch his son graduate. And so just a
14 beautiful moment that you quoted in your responses
15 earlier that your dad offered to meet the moment. And
16 so just an incredible sense of nostalgia. And in this
17 role of being accountable to the world as we vet the
18 panel of judges like my friend Ronnie, Senator Sabb,
19 and each one who have spoken thus far, the
20 responsibility that we have here, the pride that we
21 have here in people offering, and, though perhaps
22 somewhat of an irritant at times, for the complaints
23 to make their complaints, but who were vetted. And so
24 I want to open with that, and I'm not going to take
25 too, too long, but I do want to delve back, as I have

1 with the other candidates, and yesterday's as well.
2 You're in a busy area here in Richland County.
3 Yesterday, we heard from a candidate who is from
4 Charleston County, Charleston Berkeley. Popular --
5 populous places where civil litigants and criminal
6 defendants are waiting for their day in court. Do
7 you, and have you, been in Richland County constrained
8 with a burgeoning backlog of cases that you have
9 needed help beyond our nonelecting successor that has
10 been beyond your control of expedite? Or how have you
11 worked with that backlog, criminal and civil?

12 A. As you know, there is a tremendous backlog, and there
13 has been for some time. You know, people blame the
14 pandemic. I don't know if that is the reason for it,
15 and we just haven't recovered. As I said, I have been
16 without a law clerk for a number of months now, so my
17 right hand -- and that is sometime, I guess, to some
18 extent, is beyond my control. I've advertised the
19 position and, you know, no one, at this point, who has
20 applied is in a position to be qualified for that job,
21 you know, with people just graduating. I will have
22 one coming in in August. It's just -- I think part of
23 the issue is, as I said, the pandemic, forcing people
24 to try their cases, giving people continuance after
25 continuance after continuance, contributes to the

1 backlog. But yeah, beyond not electing a resident
2 judge for the Fifth Circuit, as I said, we are -- we
3 have been down other judges, with Judge Lee retiring,
4 with Judge Benjamin going to the Fourth Circuit Court
5 of Appeals, and there just aren't enough bodies. The
6 other thing that Richland County has that other
7 counties don't is all of the government agencies. So
8 the volume of cases that come through suing the
9 Democratic Party, the Election Commission, the
10 Republican Party, Planned Parenthood, et cetera, et
11 cetera, et cetera, the Department of Corrections, all
12 of these governmental entities are headquartered here,
13 and that probably exponentially increases the number
14 of cases that we have to deal with in the Fifth
15 Circuit. I say the Fifth Circuit, but in Richland
16 County, in particular. Kershaw County largely takes
17 care of itself and has a very small number of cases,
18 and I don't think we're behind there much at all, if
19 at all. There's just a lot going on in Richland
20 County and not enough humans to handle all of it.

21 **Q. And if you have asked for help from the Supreme Court**
22 **to assign a retired judge -- I know they travel around**
23 **Charleston, Horry, we've seen them. You clerked with**
24 **one who now is a retired judge, Judge Cooper, right --**

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- they are there at the ready. Has that been brought
2 to this district that, at your request, or that the
3 world sees, the chief sees, that you, in this area,
4 are uniquely backlogged?

5 A. Periodically. And so there was a time last year where
6 we were giving retired judges additional terms of
7 court, either with retired judges or other active
8 circuit court judges whose terms of court had broken
9 down around the state. We would add terms of common
10 pleas nonjury, particularly because they can be done
11 by Webex, and that's a lot of what -- the motions not
12 being heard is a lot of what contributes to the trials
13 not being heard. Because, of course, if you've got an
14 outstanding motion to dismiss, a discovery motion, you
15 cannot be ready for trial. And so we did do some of
16 that, and we continue to do that when we're able to,
17 when we have the manpower to do it. We're adding
18 terms this year, now with so many new circuit court
19 judges that were just recently elected. So we do ask
20 for additional manpower when we can.

21 Q. And realize you're not running for reelection to the
22 circuit court. I know that. My questions may suggest
23 that I don't know that. But we are judging you as
24 compared to your peers on what we have to work with.
25 And one of those is -- again, has been explored

1 thoroughly, timeliness in carrying out the job,
2 issuing orders. And in terms of that motions
3 practice, particularly, do you have a plan -- or not a
4 plan, but a practice that you think works for those
5 who are saying, it's been a slow boil, that you would
6 point to for us to have in this record that says
7 that's not so, here's how I do it, here's how I get
8 them out, here's my practice? What is that?

9 A. Well, I will say a lot of my delay in signing orders
10 is that I do request proposed orders from attorneys.
11 Helping to get those in a timely fashion would make me
12 then -- enable me to be able to sign them in a timely
13 fashion. I think as Mr. Strom and Mr. Safran have
14 acknowledged, the more time that passes, the more
15 distant the memory is, the less familiar the person is
16 with the case. And so just to give Senator Sabb a
17 slight correction, those common pleas nonjury terms in
18 Richland County are not just a day or two days, they
19 are five days. So in that week, you may hear 120
20 motions. I do request proposed orders from the
21 attorneys. I need those in a more timely fashion,
22 because if you wait -- I signed one yesterday that
23 maybe nine months had passed since I heard it. And of
24 course, now, they're chomping at the bit waiting for
25 me to sign it, but I had forgotten, you know. I --

1 and I want to be as accurate and thorough as I can be
2 in issuing my decisions. So I guess, I need to stay
3 more on top of the attorneys when I request proposed
4 orders, and that's something that my law clerk
5 typically would do but --

6 Q. But your practice there -- I mean, you've been at this
7 some years, now.

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. But we've got to be at better practice. And I'm not
10 saying yours isn't. But to the complaint that you
11 don't give folks continuances, I remember -- I know
12 how some lawyers have to be dragged to the courtroom
13 to settle their case, or whatever. But in terms of
14 your practice with -- because you're about to be, if
15 you're successful, in a motions practice, you'll have
16 oral argument. It won't be Webex. Though, maybe they
17 will.

18 A. Right.

19 Q. You won't have near as many cases, but if we are
20 looking to pass as the prologue for how you're going
21 to carry out that job, help me -- I mean, it doesn't
22 comfort me to here you say, I don't remember it. It's
23 the truth. How could you remember it. But how -- I
24 mean, not every motion warrants a proposed order.
25 Surely, there are some form orders that are quickly

1 disposed of. Discovery make take the majority of your
2 time, motions practice, I don't know. But how -- how
3 -- to the world who says, She's not remembered my
4 case, how -- for other judges that are looking and
5 will look at this transcript --

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. -- and folks that will be judge judges hereafter for
8 circuit court positions --

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 Q. -- is there a better practice that somebody's got that
11 you emulate or are they trying to copy yours?

12 A. I don't know. I would say that the delay in orders is
13 more recent. It is not the entirety of my career. I
14 do do form orders when I am able to. I think that E-
15 filing helps that a great deal, the ability to just
16 click, click, click and sign the order. It's more the
17 -- the delay in orders is not the minor things. It's
18 not granting a motion to compel. It's not denying a
19 motion to dismiss. They are the lengthier motions
20 granting summary judgment, things that would be
21 appellate issues, and I guess I need to do a better
22 job of stopping in the moment and taking time and
23 slowing things down and making sure those things get
24 done in a timelier fashion, rather than moving from
25 thing to thing to thing.

1 Q. You're -- and again, invoking parents' legacies that
2 we have and the shoes that you effectively have not
3 tried to fill, or you didn't succeed your father. But
4 in the path that he has pursued, more blessing than
5 not, but you are not your father, I am not my father.
6 How do you see your unique gift, your unique skill
7 set, that distinguishes you from the circuit court
8 bench to serving on the Supreme Court?

9 A. Am I comparing myself to my father or just to people
10 in general? I want to understand your question.

11 Q. Well, you got five appellates.

12 A. Oh, certainly.

13 Q. You're not your father, you're not running for circuit
14 court reelection. You're running -- you're blessed
15 with a good name. You're blessed with a good name,
16 but you are not your father. He's not running for the
17 Supreme Court, you are. What uniquely Jocelyn Newman
18 skill set do you say lends yourself to this position?

19 A. I am someone who has always been interested in
20 learning, in reading and studying. Frankly, I think
21 that contributes to the delay in issuing orders that
22 we've discussed. But that's sort of my wheelhouse.
23 Those are skills that I believe to be very important
24 for an appellate position and something that I excel
25 at. Frankly, I'm an introvert. I read books. I do

1 crossword puzzles. I study. I analyze. I'm a
2 mathematician. And I think all of that will serve me
3 in my dissecting and deliberating about these
4 significant issues that appear before the Supreme
5 Court.

6 Q. Two last areas. And to that point, I would recommend
7 everyone who has not already, if they haven't
8 commented, Bailey McDaniel --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- your former clerk --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- writes two things that stand out to me. And one
13 you've just touched on in terms of your methodical,
14 meticulous and, I'm going to call it, thorough
15 consideration. You're not from the hip, judge, rule
16 and go. She is obviously witnessing your struggle, I
17 guess, with some of these decisions that you have of
18 you. And then the other, which is just, I think, to
19 the world in terms of your core, loves family, both
20 chosen and given, with all she has, whether
21 coordinating dinners and gifts for her parents and
22 siblings or showing up for pre-law meetings at
23 Benedict College. Judge Newman makes sure those
24 around her felt included and important. That is
25 temperament. And if that is transcending to those

1 before you in court, then spot on. Lastly, this. In
2 terms of our -- the nine evaluative criteria, the 817
3 people that wrote or participated in the survey, you
4 had 159 folks that made comments. We've heard some of
5 the good and the fewer of the bad. I want to commend
6 to you, though, that your peers regard you, in each of
7 these nine evaluative criteria exceedingly high. And
8 so if there's any negative that you take away from
9 this, don't let it be unmet by the regard that the
10 peers have of you and the job that you're doing.

11 A. Yes, sir. Thank you very much.

12 SENATOR TALLEY: Who else? All right. Judge Newman,
13 thank you for being here this morning. That
14 concludes this portion of our screening process.
15 I do need to take the opportunity to remind you
16 that pursuant to the Commission's evaluative
17 criteria, the Commission expects candidates to
18 follow the spirit, as well as the letter of the
19 state ethics law. Any violations or appearance
20 of impropriety is serious and potentially
21 deserving of heavy weight in screening
22 deliberations. On that note, and as you know,
23 the record will remain open until the formal
24 release of the report of qualifications, and you
25 may be called back at such time if the need

1 arises. Do you understand?

2 JUDGE NEWMAN: I do.

3 SENATOR TALLEY: Thank you.

4 JUDGE NEWMAN: Thank you.

5 SENATOR TALLEY: Appreciate your service to the State
6 of South Carolina, and we wish you well.

7 JUDGE NEWMAN: Thank you. Thank you all. Thank you.

8 MR. SAFRAN: Mr. Chairman, I'd move we go to executive
9 session at this time.

10 SENATOR TALLEY: All right. Motion for executive
11 session.

12 SENATOR RANKIN: Second.

13 SENATOR TALLEY: Second by Senator Rankin. All those
14 in favor, signify by saying aye.

15 MEMBERS: Aye.

16 SENATOR TALLEY: Any opposed? Now, we will go into
17 executive session.

18 (Executive session was held from 11:30 - 11:44 am)

19 CHAIRMAN RANKIN: All right, we are back on the record,
20 and for the record during executive session no
21 actions were taken, no votes were cast. And we
22 will now proceed to the next candidate, Judge
23 Letitia Verdin. If you will -- How do you
24 pronounce your first name?

25 JUDGE VERDIN: It is Letitia but I answer to anything.

1 I do. With a name like Letitia I answer to
2 anything.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: So what's the worst pronunciation
4 other than mine that you've heard?

5 JUDGE VERDIN: Latitia. So.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: And for the record that is pronounced
7 Letitia. Madame Court Reporter, do that
8 phonetically. Letitia.

9 WHEREUPON:

10 Letitia Verdin, being duly sworn and
11 cautioned to speak the truth, the whole truth and
12 nothing but the truth, testifies as follows:

13 SENATOR RANKIN: You had prepared for us the PDQ and
14 Sworn Statement, are they ready to be entered
15 into the record without amendment?

16 JUDGE VERDIN: Yes, sir. They are.

17 SENATOR RANKIN: All right, and no objection by you?

18 JUDGE VERDIN: None whatsoever.

19 (EXHIBIT NO. 9 MARKED FOR
20 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (19 pages)
21 PDQ - Letitia Verdin)

22 (EXHIBIT NO. 10 MARKED FOR
23 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES (6 pages)
24 Sworn statement - Letitia Verdin)

25 SENATOR RANKIN: All right, they will be put in the

1 record. Judge you are very familiar with our
2 vetting process of the Judicial Merit Selection
3 Commission. In our investigation of your
4 qualifications for the bench we thoroughly look
5 at, as you have attested to in prior screenings I
6 know, the nine evaluative criteria which includes
7 a ballot box survey concerning the application of
8 your materials, verification of compliance with
9 state ethics laws, search of newspaper articles
10 in which your name appears, study of previous
11 screenings, and economic conflicts of interest.
12 There are two affidavits that were filed in
13 opposition to your election. They have been
14 dismissed by the Commission. There are no
15 witnesses here to testify for you or against you,
16 unless you brought someone that I did not see
17 come in with you?

18 JUDGE VERDIN: No, sir.

19 SENATOR RANKIN: You have the opportunity if you'd like
20 to make a brief opening statement. Otherwise Ms.
21 Crawford will open it with questions and then
22 members of the Commission may as well.

23 JUDGE VERDIN: I understand you've had a long morning,
24 so I just want to thank you all for what you're
25 doing and thank the staff, especially Erin and

1 Lindi, who I've been working with. Thank you very
2 much for what you do.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: Very good. All right Ms. Crawford.

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MS. CRAWFORD:

6 **Q. Good afternoon Judge.**

7 A. Afternoon.

8 SENATOR RANKIN: It's morning. 11:46, we're not that
9 late.

10 MS. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman I note for the record that
11 based on the testimony contained in the
12 candidates PDQ which has been included in the
13 record with her consent, Judge Verdin meets the
14 constitutional requirements for this position
15 regarding age, residence and years of practice.

16 **Q. Judge Verdin why do you want to now serve on the
17 Supreme Court?**

18 A. Well I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on every bench,
19 Family Court, Circuit Court, and now the Court of
20 Appeals, and I've particularly enjoyed serving as
21 appellate judge for a little over a year now. Frankly
22 I've enjoyed it maybe even a little more than I
23 thought I would. But I very much have enjoyed that.
24 I like bring to the Supreme Court, I know the Justices
25 on the Supreme Court are fantastic and have fantastic

1 backgrounds, but I'd like to bring my varied
2 background to the Supreme Court and I'd also like to
3 serve in more of a leadership capacity with the Bar
4 and with the court system just to strengthen our court
5 system and to support our legal practice.

6 **Q. Judge Verdin, could you identify what you would**
7 **consider your greatest accomplishment as a lawyer or a**
8 **judge or even outside that arena, and explain why?**

9 A. Well I feel like my greatest accomplishment as a
10 lawyer would have been when I was in the Solicitor's
11 Office and I worked in a leadership capacity there to
12 implement, this was a long time ago, but to implement
13 one of the first case management systems in the State
14 in both Family Court and in General Sessions for the
15 Solicitor's Office. I've always been proud of that
16 work and I'm proud of the work that I did there
17 overall as a judge. I wouldn't say, I wouldn't want
18 to pick any one case over another, but just I was
19 proud to work in the court system on all the different
20 levels and I was proud to serve with the other judges
21 that I did and hopefully -- and then our county
22 implemented a case management system that was
23 important to me there too, so. I would think those
24 would be my greatest accomplishments.

25 **Q. Judge, how would you describe your general judicial**

1 **philosophy?**

2 A. Well my judicial philosophy is this. First and
3 foremost I want litigants and lawyers to be able to be
4 heard and to be able to have their grievances dealt
5 with in court and to leave court and feel like they
6 were heard. So far as my particular philosophy, I
7 think I have a very measured philosophy towards the
8 law. I understand my role. I understand that I am
9 not a policy-maker. I understand I am not a law-
10 maker. But I'm an interpreter of the law and I take
11 that seriously. I don't look for ambiguities where
12 ambiguities are not there, but where there are I have
13 to step in and -- I would have to step in and address
14 those and would do so. But overall I would say that
15 my judicial philosophy is a measured one.

16 **Q. How would you describe your vision for the future of**
17 **our judicial system and what changes would you**
18 **advocate?**

19 A. Well, our legal profession is changing and I don't
20 think, and some people lament that. I welcome those
21 changes because change is inevitable. But I think
22 technology has been one of the biggest things that we
23 have had on our side in addressing so many of the
24 challenges for the court system. I would want to
25 continue to advocate for technology that makes sense,

1 that works, that the Bar has had input into, that the
2 Trial Bench has had input into, to help with that. I
3 would want to continue to, even though there have been
4 changes in our legal profession, I certainly wouldn't
5 want in any way to lessen the highest standards of
6 integrity and to maintain the highest standards of
7 integrity in both our judiciary and in our Bar. Hand-
8 in-hand with technology I would think efficiency and
9 addressing back logs through efficiency. And I know
10 that the Supreme Court is attempting to do that now,
11 and I would, if I were elected, I would want to be a
12 part of that. And working on the backlogs throughout
13 the system.

14 **Q. And some of this may segue into that, what steps do**
15 **you think should be taken to foster public confidence,**
16 **public trust in the judicial system?**

17 A. Well, the certainly the highest ethical standards to
18 begin with. Transparency. Communication. Those I
19 think are the most important ones. It has been my
20 experience thus far that most folks just want to
21 believe that they were heard, they want to be heard
22 and lawyers just want to have the opportunity to
23 practice law and to have the opportunity to be heard
24 as well. I generally have found that when folks are
25 heard and when the court communicates with them as to

1 why I made a particular decision or something like
2 that and give them the respect of communicating why I
3 did something, generally folks they understand. They
4 may not be thrilled or happy with the decision, but
5 they understand. And I think that fosters trust. I
6 think also understanding that the appearance of
7 impropriety, recusing yourself when need be, sometimes
8 that can occasionally be an ego thing from time to
9 time, but that, you know, oh I can be fair and
10 impartial, but you have to take the next step and say
11 does this give the appearance of impropriety. And I
12 think that upholds the public's trust in the judiciary
13 if you make that analysis and that make that analysis
14 on the record publically.

15 **Q. Thank you, Judge. When do you believe is appropriate**
16 **to write a concurring or dissenting opinion, and are**
17 **there any negatives to doing so?**

18 A. Well, I would write a concurrence if I agreed a
19 majority opinion, of course, but for different
20 reasons. And if I felt that it was necessary to
21 elaborate on those reasons. The danger in that is
22 that if there's a majority and there's all these
23 concurrences it certainly, it can be confusing to
24 judges, trial judges and to lawyers it can be very
25 confusing. And it can give the appearance that the

1 court is not unified. And I think another great time
2 to write a concurrence, I'm reminded of one that Chief
3 Justice Elect Kittredge wrote within the last year in
4 which he talked about the duties of prosecutors. It
5 wasn't necessarily something that should have been in
6 the majority opinion, but it was a great opportunity
7 to remind trial judges and prosecutors of their
8 duties. And I thought that was a particularly good
9 concurrence. As far as dissent is concerned, if I
10 disagreed with a majority opinion and felt very
11 strongly that I needed to tell my reasons then yes I
12 would write a dissent. Again, the danger is that it
13 can be confusing and it can give mixed signals to the
14 Bar and to the Bench. I have seen in some opinions,
15 not in this State but in other states, that sometimes
16 dissent can come off as disrespectful. So if I were to
17 write a dissent I can't expect someone to respect the
18 court if I'm not showing that same respect to my
19 colleagues.

20 **Q. Thank you. Judge, the Commission received nine-hundred**
21 **and twenty-seven ballot box surveys regarding you, and**
22 **two hundred and thirty of those provided additional**
23 **comments, almost all of which were positive. Some of**
24 **the positive comments included: In a state full of**
25 **talented, intelligent, and capable judges and**

1 justices, Judge Verdin is the finest juror South
2 Carolina has to offer. Judge Verdin would be a
3 formidable Justice of the South Carolina Supreme
4 Court. Judge Verdin sets a standard for excellent
5 judges. She treats litigants, victims, court
6 personnel and attorneys with respect. She is
7 efficient without being abrupt. Only four of the
8 written comments expressed any concerns, and they
9 centered on you having been on the Court of Appeals
10 bench for such a short period of time. Can you
11 respond to these concerns? You touched on it in your
12 opening, but --

13 A. They're right. I'd have to agree with them. I've
14 only been on the Court of Appeals a short period of
15 time. I will say in this year and change I have
16 probably learned more in this year than I have in any
17 year in my life. However, candidly, this is not my
18 timing. This would not have been my ideal timing,
19 truthfully, but we have a small Supreme Court. The
20 openings don't come up very often and in looking at
21 everything and discussing it with folks around me, I
22 decided that this was the point in time that I should
23 think about running and did. My running in no way, or
24 my running after only having been on the Court of
25 Appeals for a year and a few months, I don't want it

1 to reflect in any way on how much I have enjoyed and
2 would continue to enjoy being on the Court of Appeals,
3 how much respect I have for Chief Judge Williams and
4 what he is doing and my colleagues there, the staff
5 attorneys, my law clerks. They're just fantastic
6 folks. I said this when I ran for the Court of
7 Appeals, I said that if the legislature didn't see fit
8 to elect me to the Court of Appeals I would be the
9 happiest Circuit Judge and I will echo the same thing.
10 If I'm not elected to the Supreme Court I'll be the
11 happiest Court of Appeals Judge and I will continue
12 hopefully to serve to the very best of my ability.

13 **Q. Thank you, Judge. I note that the Upstate Citizen's**
14 **Committee reported that Judge Verdin is qualified in**
15 **the evaluative criteria, constitutional**
16 **qualifications, physical and mental stability and well**
17 **qualified in the remaining evaluative criteria of**
18 **ethical fitness, professional and academic ability,**
19 **character, reputation, experience and judicial**
20 **temperament. The Committee stated in summary: This**
21 **candidate received the highest marks possible from the**
22 **Committee. We received only glowing, positive reports**
23 **while interviewing others during the background**
24 **investigation.**

25 **A. Thank you.**

1 Q. A few housekeeping points on my end. Since submitting
2 your Letter of Intent to run for the seat have you
3 contacted any members of this Commission?

4 A. I have not.

5 Q. Are you familiar with 2-19-70 including the
6 limitations on contacting members of the General
7 Assembly regarding your screening?

8 A. I am.

9 Q. Since submitting your Letter of Intent have you sought
10 or received the pledge of any legislator prior to this
11 date or pending the outcome of your screening?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of
14 the General Assembly on your behalf?

15 A. I have not.

16 Q. And are you aware of anyone attempting to intervene in
17 this process on your behalf?

18 A. I am not.

19 MS. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman I have no further
20 questions at this time.

21 SENATOR RANKIN: All right, questions of members of the
22 Commission? Mr. Safran.

23 EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. SAFRAN:

25 Q. Thank you Mr. Chairman. Apparently in the one year

1 you've done nothing to diminish the outstanding we had
2 gotten each time that I've seen you.

3 A. Thank you.

4 Q. And I don't have any doubt that you're up to the task
5 that you've been doing as well as the Supreme Court. I
6 guess the thing is, if it's time, you're right these
7 opportunities don't come very often but from what I'm
8 gathering the Court of Appeals has really been making
9 a tremendous effort to deal with maybe some of the
10 discord in the Bar about the timing and how long some
11 of these things take. Have you noticed that too?

12 A. Yes, sir. Definitely. And I'm proud to have joined
13 in with that in a tiny bit here. Judge Blake Hewitt
14 is chairing a committee that is dealing with different
15 and creative ways to handle our cases, new ways to
16 think about evaluating our cases when they come in.
17 And I serve on that committee along with Judge Vinson.
18 And of course all of that is under the guidance and
19 direction of Chief Judge Williams. The statistics,
20 although I cannot tell them to you right now, I will
21 tell you we are moving in the right direction and it
22 has nothing to do with me but --

23 Q. **I'm sure it does. It's a collective effort.**

24 A. But things that were put in place and I was just very
25 glad that Judge Hewitt allowed me to be on that

1 committee as well too.

2 Q. How have you seen your experience in both Family Court
3 and Circuit Court, I guess more or less preparing you
4 or having prepared you for what you're facing now in
5 the Court of Appeals?

6 A. Well you know, a lot of the Family Court, I'm reaching
7 back, but it has been of tremendous benefit to me to
8 be able to think about situations and times when I was
9 sitting in that judge's seat. That has been of
10 terrific benefit to me. You know, we see so many
11 different things on the Court of Appeals, obviously,
12 and still would on the Supreme Court, obviously. But
13 just to have had the familiarity with those areas, to
14 have been in those courts and to understand, you know,
15 what a judge goes through in making those decisions
16 has been of great benefit to me.

17 Q. Let me just ask you one other thing. Because of the
18 time constraints and nature of the job as a Family
19 Court, and it's rare I think that you would be
20 drafting your own order. When you get to Circuit
21 Court that happens to a great extent also. You're now
22 in an area where that's all you're supposed to be
23 doing. How has that transition worked, and granted
24 they're there for a purpose, but how reliant are you
25 on the clerks as opposed to doing it yourself?

1 A. Well it's a collaborative effort. I certainly don't
2 want to in any way indicate that I could this job
3 without my law clerks because I could not. But it is a
4 very collaborative effort. On the Circuit Court. And
5 I'll admit on the Family Court I was not able to draft
6 very many of my own orders and I relied on attorneys
7 to submit proposed orders, and I did. But on the
8 Circuit Court I drafted a good number of my orders and
9 I liked doing that because I wanted it to say exactly
10 what I wanted it to say. Also, I think sometimes
11 getting competing orders always seemed a little
12 strange to me to ask for proposed orders from both
13 sides because you're asking one side to kind of waste
14 their time a little bit. So I -- potentially. And so
15 I will say that the writing I have enjoyed. It's
16 something that I've enjoyed having the time to do.
17 Although, once again, I have just outstanding law
18 clerks and in fact my senior law clerk is someone who,
19 strangely enough, we went to college together. And
20 she's been at the Court of Appeals for 27 years. So
21 she's been able to really shepherd me through that
22 process. But it is very much a collaborative effort.
23 I'm very involved in both the overall policy of what
24 we're ultimately going to decide but also in the
25 drafting as well.

1 Q. And along just that last line, the drafting, I mean we
2 had Judge Hewitt here earlier and I know a lot of the
3 comments were pointed towards the fact that he has a
4 tendency to want to kind of get to the point, be
5 somewhat limited in terms of what's said, kind of
6 address the question as succinctly as possible. Other
7 people have a different style. And, you know, from
8 somebody who from a personal standpoint was kind of
9 trained to keep it more limited, I mean where are you
10 think you're finding yourself at this point?

11 A. Well sometimes I read my writing and I think it's
12 pretty dry. But I'd like to say that I want to get to
13 the point. I want my opinions to be ones that are
14 helpful to a trial judge and to an attorney, that it's
15 something they can go and look at and get some
16 guidance from hopefully right in that moment.
17 Sometimes we have the luxury of studying cases and
18 looking at them from all different angles, but
19 sometimes we just need the answer, and we're in trial
20 and we need the answer. And so I think I'm probably
21 more to the side of getting to the point and I would
22 agree very much that Judge Hewitt is that way and is
23 fantastic.

24 Q. Thank you very much.

25 A. Thank you.

1 SENATOR RANKIN: Other questions?

2 EXAMINATION

3 BY SENATOR RANKIN:

4 Q. Let me ask a few if I may and compliment you similarly
5 as Mr. Safran has done with your welcome back.

6 Nothing's changed except perhaps more folks have
7 weighed in and we, in this round, have had anywhere
8 from mid four-hundreds, five-hundred, seven-hundred,
9 eight-hundred and nine-hundred comments, or rather
10 participants in this ballot box survey. And you have
11 had perhaps the largest percentage or number of people
12 weighing in, and glowing comments and a spitful of
13 negative that just don't maybe know what state they're
14 in that may not know you. So I want to commend you
15 for that.

16 A. Thank you.

17 Q. In this business that we weigh and judge the judges'
18 qualifications to then recommend to the full General
19 Assembly, one of the considerations in this race for
20 you is that you, if you're successful, would create
21 effectively an all-Upstate Supreme Court. That
22 suggests that there is no geographical boundary but
23 the seat member and they can only look out for their
24 part of the State. Speak to your sense and the lens
25 that you would be looking at cases that would come

1 **before you and tell me whether there would be an**
2 **Upstate balance or bias?**

3 A. Well if I could just say, ya'll are going to think I'm
4 a nomad, but I've lived all over the State first.
5 I've lived in Oconee, Greenville, Greenwood, Columbia,
6 Charleston. I have lived all over the State, but as a
7 Family Court judge and a Circuit Court judge I held
8 court all over the State, and I would hope that I did
9 my very best job no matter what county I was in. I
10 certainly have never believed that my commission told
11 me that I was to only serve folks in the Upstate or
12 only to serve the people in the county where I live.
13 I believe that my commission makes me responsible to
14 serve the entire state, and I certainly would do so.
15 I would point out, maybe this isn't, I don't know if I
16 should point this out or not, but the person retiring
17 is from Spartanburg. And so I, although I'm not
18 saying I would be replacing Chief Justice Beatty, I'm
19 just saying that he is the one is rolling off from
20 Spartanburg in the Upstate.

21 **Q. Justice James would take issue in making him an**
22 **Upstate, but if you're in Horry County, it's all**
23 **Upstate.**

24 A. I certainly was not going to correct you, Chairman,
25 about Buck James.

1 Q. If you didn't these guys and gals will.

2 A. I'd rather him be mad at me to tell you the truth.

3 Q. So and not unlike House and Senate members not
4 representing their own area first, they are State
5 Senators, State Representatives. So we do all have to
6 have a statewide perspective.

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Your having served on I guess maybe the most popular
9 or depending on if you're a litigant, the most touches
10 with the public that you can get in our court system.
11 Some would say it's not the Magistrate's Court, it
12 would be Family Court. Your transition from the
13 people to the reviewing of the decision that lower
14 courts have made for the people, is it a isolated,
15 ivory tower-like experience that you have liked
16 surprisingly or that you have aspired to to get to
17 quicker?

18 A. It can be isolating. I made a pledge to you when I
19 was here two years, or whenever screening was two
20 years ago, I made a pledge to you that I was going to
21 stay involved if I were elected with the Bar and I was
22 not going to let myself be isolated. It is a struggle
23 to do that from the Appellate Court. But I believe I
24 have done it. And I miss the trial court very much
25 so. But I miss being a trial attorney, and I don't

1 want to forget what being a trial attorney is like. I
2 don't want to forget what it's like to be on a trial
3 court. But I do, I miss it very much and I miss
4 Family Court, I miss Circuit Court all the time. And
5 I probably tell too many war stories, probably bore
6 everybody at the Court of Appeals with that.

7 **Q. And that you have heard from other screenings, some**
8 **folks get there and they just did not anticipate the**
9 **isolation and the dryness of it, your word about your**
10 **writing style. And how they miss that personal**
11 **contact. And so I appreciate your speaking to that.**
12 **I want to wonder now, not in a totally light note, do**
13 **you know what a bid No Trump means?**

14 **A. I'm sorry, I don't.**

15 **Q. Did you take a bridge class?**

16 **A. Oh I did take a bridge class, but I was the worst.**

17 **Q. So you didn't study that part of that?**

18 **A. And now that you say this these words are coming back**
19 **to me. But let me just tell you I was the worst**
20 **bridge player of all times. I was really the remedial**
21 **student in that class, so. Yes.**

22 **Q. My mother played Bridge -- for Representative**
23 **Rutherford who doesn't know what bridge is except for**
24 **one that you cross. There is a term, am I correct, on**
25 **bidding in bridge?**

1 A. Yes, yes. I remember a No Trump, I can't remember
2 what that...

3 **Q. We're not talking about "the Trump".**

4 A. Oh I understand.

5 **Q. Unless your folks think otherwise.**

6 REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD: Objection. Relevance.

7 SENATOR RANKIN: Overruled.

8 **Q. Finally, I want to call out to the young lady that**
9 **wrote about you, Ms. Chet --**

10 A. Oh, Chet is actually a man.

11 **Q. Excuse me.**

12 A. No, that's ok. That's ok.

13 **Q. Tell me, and I would not know it from reading, excuse**
14 **me, again Rutherford does not know what we're talking**
15 **about. He doesn't read references. Give us a little**
16 **color of that please and help him know what we're**
17 **talking about.**

18 A. About who Chet Chea is?

19 **Q. And your influence with him. Four decades y'all have**
20 **known each other. Did he not write this on your**
21 **behalf?**

22 A. He did.

23 **Q. Did you read the letter?**

24 A. I did read it and I was extremely touched. I was
25 extremely touched. But he's been a good friend and

1 the way he makes it sound I'm just going to tell you
2 honestly, he makes it sound as if I've been a mentor
3 to him but he's been as much of a mentor to me as I
4 was to him. But he came to Seneca, he moved to
5 Seneca. He was a Cambodian refugee. I think they
6 fled the Khmer Rouge if I understand correctly. By
7 the time Chet -- Chet moved there in seventh grade to
8 Seneca, you know, back in the 1980's, so you can
9 imagine that was probably a little daunting. He was
10 certainly the only Asian student in our school. And
11 by the time he left he was vice-president of our
12 student body. So he's just an amazing person. And
13 his wife is our pediatrician, or was our pediatrician.
14 And he is a lawyer and his youngest son is my godson.

15 **Q. I want to commend you, and the line here to me that**
16 **speaks to my sense of the story about you that is just**
17 **overwhelmingly communicated by the participants in**
18 **this ballot box survey is her inclusivity and kindness**
19 **stood out as she introduced me to classmates and**
20 **included me in her circle of friends, not looking at**
21 **him a student who stood out due to his appearance.**
22 **And so that to me is an epitaph and a wonderful**
23 **statement about you.**

24 **A. Well thank you very much.**

25 SENATOR RANKIN: And now Representative Rutherford has

1 some questions. Actually, Hope Blackley.

2 MS. BLACKLEY: I just a comment, I don't have a
3 question. I do want to say I can't think of you
4 being remedial in anything.

5 JUDGE VERDIN: Oh, believe me.

6 MS. BLACKLEY: But I, again, just want to say it is, I
7 worked with you for a number of years when you
8 were a Circuit Court judge and again, stellar,
9 exceptional.

10 JUDGE VERDIN: Thank you.

11 MS. BLACKLEY: And staff between Greenville and
12 Spartanburg just adored you. I think you are
13 what's needed and I wish you all the best and
14 thank you for running.

15 JUDGE VERDIN: Well, thank you very much and I
16 appreciate all the times we have worked together.
17 Thank you very much in all that you've done.

18 SENATOR RANKIN: Representative Caskey.

19 REPRESENTATIVE CASKEY: Thank your Mr. Chairman.
20 Judge, I don't have any comments or questions I
21 just wanted to apologize to you for not being
22 here at the start of this proceeding. Contrary
23 to what some in our state allege, those who
24 practice law and try and serve in bodies like
25 this are often called away unavoidably and so it

1 wasn't for want of desire to be here, I was tied
2 up in court. Thank you, and glad you're offering
3 again.

4 JUDGE VERDIN: Well thank you, and I appreciate that.
5 And I appreciate your service in both ways.

6 SENATOR RANKIN: All right, anything else from anybody?
7 All right. Judge we thank you for your
8 participation and suffering the interruptions of
9 Representative Rutherford. And I want to take
10 this opportunity as each time we've done this,
11 you know this drill, pursuant to our evaluative
12 criteria, we expect you as a candidate to abide
13 by both the letter and spirit of ethics law. Any
14 violation of that or appearance of impropriety
15 will warrant us bringing you back for further
16 questions. You know that, correct?

17 JUDGE VERDIN: Yes, sir.

18 SENATOR RANKIN: And you also know that the record is
19 not closed until the formal release of the report
20 of qualifications. And again in the unlikely
21 event we could call you back. Correct?

22 JUDGE VERDIN: Yes, sir.

23 SENATOR RANKIN: All right. Again, thank you for your
24 ascent through the court ranks thus far and your
25 smiling presence today.

1 JUDGE VERDIN: Well thank you very much. Thank you for
2 having me.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: And we are now -- we are soon going to
4 go into executive session. The intent here is to
5 go in executive session with a plan for House and
6 Senate members to finish the work with the
7 tolerance and hopefully the indulgence of our lay
8 members to come back to conclude our work at the
9 adjournment of House and Senate today. So if
10 there is no objections to that, overwhelming
11 objections to that, then I would entertain a
12 motion to go into executive session.

13 REPRESENTATIVE CASKEY: So moved.

14 REPRESENTATIVE CASKEY: So moved.

15 SENATOR RANKIN: All right folks and thank y'all.
16 We'll be in executive session.

17 (Executive session was held from 12:19 to 6:17 pm

18 SENATOR RANKIN: All right, we are back on the record.
19 And for the record, we are coming out of in
20 Executive Session. No votes were cast, no
21 decisions were made. We will now proceed to a
22 call of the ballot on the candidates. And do I
23 have a motion in terms of the candidates being
24 qualified?

25 REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD: Move to find them all

1 qualified.

2 SENATOR SABB: Second.

3 SENATOR RANKIN: Motion made and seconded, all in favor
4 of finding each of the six candidates qualified,
5 say aye.

6 MEMBERS: Aye.

7 SENATOR RANKIN: Any opposition? There being none.

8 All right now we will proceed to a vote in
9 alphabetical order. And Ms. Crawford, tell us
10 how we're going to do this vote.

11 MS. CRAWFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll now call
12 out the names of the candidates for the Supreme
13 Court Seat Three in alphabetical order. And
14 remember, each Commission member gets three
15 votes. Any candidate that receives six or more
16 votes for qualified and nominated will be
17 considered one of the three nominated at the end
18 of that vote, unless there's a tie and we'll go
19 to the next ballot. Any candidate that does not
20 receive any ballots -- or any votes will be
21 removed from the consideration on the next
22 ballot. The candidates are -- do you want me to
23 name them all or?

24 SENATOR RANKIN: Yep, just name them.

25 MS. CRAWFORD: The six candidates are the honorable

1 Ralph K. Anderson, III, The Honorable Blake A.
2 Hewitt, the Honorable Deadra L. Jefferson, The
3 Honorable R. Keith Kelly, The Honorable Jocelyn
4 Newman and The Honorable Letitia H. Verdin. At
5 this point, all those in favor of the Honorable
6 Ralph K. Anderson, III, please raise your hand
7 and keep it raised. Three.

8 SENATOR RANKIN: Four.

9 MS. CRAWFORD: The next candidate is The Honorable
10 Blake A. Hewitt. Three.

11 SENATOR RANKIN: Three.

12 MS. CRAWFORD: Luke.

13 SENATOR RANKIN: I'm sorry.

14 MS. CRAWFORD: The Honorable Deadra L. Jefferson.
15 That's two. The Honorable R. Keith Kelly.

16 SENATOR TALLEY: I vote Ms. Blackley's proxy as well.

17 MS. CRAWFORD: Got it. So that's three. The Honorable
18 Jocelyn Newman.

19 SENATOR TALLEY: I vote Ms. Blackley's proxy as well.

20 MS. CRAWFORD: The Honorable Letitia H. Verdin.

21 SENATOR TALLEY: I vote Ms. Blackley's proxy as well.

22 MS. CRAWFORD: That's nine. Okay. Two candidates
23 having received a majority would be Jocelyn
24 Newman and Letitia Verdin. So each Commission
25 member now has one vote remaining. And I'll again

1 repeat them in order. The Honorable Ralph K.
2 Anderson, III. The Honorable Blake A. Hewitt.
3 REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD: Point of order, maybe a
4 little too late. Are we supposed to be keeping
5 track of every single vote on our sheet and who
6 we voted for? I did not.

7 SENATOR RANKIN: The final. The final.

8 MS. CRATER: I've got it too.

9 MS. CRAWFORD: Yeah, we've got we've got it. We've
10 got it.

11 REPRESENTATIVE RUTHERFORD: Okay.

12 MR. SAFRAN: How many votes was for Hewitt?

13 MS. CRATER: That was five.

14 SENATOR RANKIN: Wait a minute. Let's do a show of
15 hands again for Hewitt, please.

16 MS. CRAWFORD: The Honorable Deadra L. Jefferson. The
17 Honorable R. Keith Kelly.

18 SENATOR TALLEY: I vote Ms. Blackley's proxy.

19 MS. CRAWFORD: And that's all. Nobody receiving six,
20 we move to a third ballot. The Honorable Ralph
21 K. Anderson.

22 MS. CRATER: Zero.

23 MS. CRAWFORD: The Honorable Blake A. Hewitt.

24 SENATOR TALLEY: I vote Ms. Blackley's proxy as well.

25 MS. CRATER: Nine.

1 MS. CRAWFORD: Nine. The Honorable Deadra L.
2 Jefferson.

3 MS. CRATER: Zero.

4 MS. CRAWFORD: And The Honorable R. Keith Kelly.

5 MS. CRATER: One.

6 MS. CRAWFORD: Okay, the three candidates that are
7 found qualified and nominated will be The
8 Honorable Blake A. Hewitt, The Honorable Jocelyn
9 Newman, and The Honorable Letitia H. Verdin.

10 SENATOR RANKIN: All right, and for purposes of our
11 report, and we have a June 5th election, so in
12 terms of the date that this report will be
13 released --

14 MS. CRAWFORD: I believe it's on the 23rd. I don't
15 have it in front of me, May 23. 22nd? The 22nd.

16 SENATOR RANKIN: For the press again, and the all these
17 House members and Senate members that are here in
18 invitation of all of our public notice, that
19 report will be released on May 22. And then,
20 folks, I want to thank you all for all this
21 unique spring screening and the work that has
22 been done to get us to this point, the input by
23 every touchpoint, The Citizens Committee, the
24 Bar, the lawyers, in terms of their participation
25 in overwhelming numbers, have taken the time to

1 participate. And everyone here with a sacrifice
2 that y'all given to this process is we try to
3 continue to hold our judges in high regard and
4 the process by which we elect them. And so
5 thank y'all very much. We are adjourned.

6 (There being no further questions, the hearings
7 concluded at 6:24 p.m.)

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2

3 I, KATHRYN BOSTROM, COURT REPORTER AND NOTARY PUBLIC
4 IN AND FOR THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AT LARGE, HEREBY
5 CERTIFY THAT I REPORTED THE HEARINGS ON THURSDAY, THE 9TH
6 DAY OF MAY 2024, THAT THE WITNESS WAS FIRST DULY SWORN BY
7 ME AND THAT THE FOREGOING 119 PAGES CONSTITUTE A TRUE AND
8 CORRECT TRANSCRIPTION OF MY STENOMASK REPORT OF SAID
9 DEPOSITION.

10 I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT I AM NEITHER ATTORNEY NOR
11 COUNSEL FOR, NOR RELATED TO OR EMPLOYED BY ANY OF THE
12 PARTIES CONNECTED WITH THIS ACTION, NOR AM I FINANCIALLY
13 INTERESTED IN SAID CAUSE.

14 I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE ORIGINAL OF SAID TRANSCRIPT
15 WAS THEREAFTER SEALED BY ME AND DELIVERED TO ERIN CRAWFORD,
16 GRESSETTE BUILDING, 1101 PENDLETON STREET, COLUMBIA, SOUTH
17 CAROLINA, WHO WILL RETAIN THIS SEALED ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPT
18 AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FILING SAME WITH THE COURT
19 PRIOR TO TRIAL OR ANY HEARING WHICH MIGHT RESULT IN A FINAL
20 ORDER ON ANY ISSUE.

21 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE SET MY HAND AND SEAL THIS
22 16TH DAY OF MAY 2024.

23 

24 KATHRYN B. BOSTROM, COURT REPORTER

25 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUGUST 23, 2032

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | 3:21 91:22 | 1980's | | |
| Exhibits | | 111:8 | 3 | 7 |
| | \$ | 1987 | | |
| 240509KBB. | | 80:12 | 3 | 7 |
| JMSC_12616_ | \$20 | | 5:24 7:2 26:19 | 14:12 27:24 |
| Kelly_Exh 1 | 45:8 | 2 | 36 | 7:45 |
| 3:3 6:21 | | | 10:11 | 23:22 |
| 240509KBB. | 1 | 2 | | |
| JMSC_12616_ | | 6:13,24,25 | 4 | 8 |
| Kelly_Exh 2 | 1 | 2-19-70 | | |
| 3:5 6:12,13,24 | 6:21 7:6 10:13 | 16:18 65:10 | 4 | 8 |
| 240509KBB. | 20:1 27:21 | 101:5 | 7:3,5 20:1 | 30:7 |
| JMSC_12616_ | 10 | 20 | 40 | 817 |
| Kelly_Exh 3 | 32:19 91:22 | 72:7 | 22:7 44:10 | 60:15 89:2 |
| 3:7 7:2 | 114 | 200 | 51:13 71:17 | 82 |
| 240509KBB. | 12:16 | 70:19 | 43 | 31:12 |
| JMSC_12616_ | 11:30 | 2013 | 68:12 | |
| Kelly_Exh 4 | 90:18 | 13:22 21:13 | 434 | 9 |
| 3:9 7:5 | 11:44 | 2021 | 12:15 | |
| 240509KBB. | 90:18 | 14:15 | 48 | 9 |
| JMSC_12616_ | 11:46 | 2022 | 51:14 | 91:19 |
| Newman_Exh 5 | 93:8 | 61:25 | | 9:20 |
| 3:11 27:16 | 12 | 2023 | 5 | 5:14 |
| 240509KBB. | 41:4 | 14:2 | | 9:38 |
| JMSC_12616_ | 120 | 2024 | 5 | 5:14 |
| Newman_Exh 6 | 84:19 | 15:11 | 27:16,25 30:8 | |
| 3:13 27:9,20 | 12:19 | 22 | 34:4 | A |
| 240509KBB. | 114:17 | 118:19 | 50 | |
| JMSC_12616_ | 13 | 22nd | 44:10 | abide |
| Newman_Exh 7 | 6:22 | 118:15 | 5th | 113:12 |
| 3:15 27:24 | 15 | 23 | 118:11 | ability |
| 240509KBB. | 41:4 45:8 | 118:15 | | 16:3 22:14 |
| JMSC_12616_ | 159 | 23rd | 6 | 28:23 36:11 |
| Meisner_Exh 8 | 60:16 68:11 | 118:14 | 27:9,20 91:23 | 49:8 61:11 65:3 |
| 3:17 30:7 | 89:4 | 24 | | 71:19,25 79:10 |
| 240509KBB. | 17 | 51:13 | 6 | 86:15 100:12,18 |
| JMSC_12616_ | 27:17 | 25 | 6:17 | abrupt |
| Verdin_Exh 9 | 18 | 21:15 | 114:17 | 99:7 |
| 3:19 91:19 | 14:7 | 27 | 6:24 | absence |
| 240509KBB. | 19 | 104:20 | 119:7 | 79:1 |
| JMSC_12616_ | 91:20 | | | absolute |
| Verdin_Exh 10 | | | | 36:15 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| absolutely 51:25 57:19 66:25 67:22 72:24 | add 12:5,7 18:1 27:5 37:12 63:18 83:9 | 71:9 | 53:15 | analogous 59:18 |
| abused 68:16 73:19 | added 6:14 | advertised 81:18 | airplane 38:20 | analysis 97:13 |
| abusing 69:8 | adding 83:17 | advice 5:4 | Alexander 18:17 20:15 | analyze 88:1 |
| academic 16:3 65:3 100:18 | addition 13:1 | advise 66:18 | all-upstate 106:21 | and/or 8:11 |
| access 49:10 | additional 12:16 27:11 57:4 60:16 64:18 83:6,20 98:22 | advocate 11:5,8 57:3 95:18,25 | allegation 14:10 | Anderson 116:1,6 117:2, 21 |
| accomplish 57:17 | address 69:8 95:13 105:6 | affectionately 29:5 | allege 112:23 | angles 105:18 |
| accomplishment 9:15,18,22,24 55:8,11 94:7,9 | addresses 73:14 | affidavit 28:14 30:3,9,17, 20 31:15 35:5 54:5 | alleged 14:14 | anticipate 109:8 |
| accomplishment s 94:24 | addressing 95:23 96:9 | affidavits 7:19 38:16 92:12 | alleviates 67:5 | anymore 74:13 |
| accountable 80:17 | adjectives 48:11,18 49:7 | affirmed 15:12 18:1 | allowed 15:21 35:16 102:25 | anyone's 67:17 |
| accurate 85:1 | adjoined 119:5 | afforded 28:16 29:14 37:20 | allowing 30:24 46:24 55:18,19 | apologize 47:12 112:21 |
| accuse 48:7 | adjournment 114:9 | afternoon 93:6,7 | alluded 24:25 | apologized 31:1 |
| accused 53:24 | adjust 18:11 | age 8:12 54:18 93:15 | alphabetical 115:9,13 | Apparently 41:14 101:25 |
| acknowledged 84:14 | administrative 62:10 | agencies 82:7 | alter 33:9 | appeal 23:1 51:18 |
| action 14:3,14 15:14 | admit 104:5 | agree 18:13 46:19 47:1 48:15 49:18 79:7 99:13 105:22 | amazing 78:19,20 111:12 | appeals 21:7 61:20 82:5 93:20 99:9,14, 25 100:2,7,8,11 102:8 103:5,11 104:20 109:6 |
| actions 58:14,15 90:21 | adored 112:12 | agreed 32:9 97:18 | amend 33:9 | appearance 25:25 89:19 97:6,11,25 111:21 113:14 |
| active 83:7 | adult 75:14 | agreeing 48:17 | amendment 7:1,7 27:8,22 91:15 | appeared 32:8 33:6 42:18 49:25 |
| activist 10:23 | advantage 73:23 | air | America 15:16 | appears |
| activity 33:16 | adversary | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| 7:17 12:25 14:3, 11 28:11 34:20 92:10 | argument 40:12 55:23 56:23 85:16 | attending 26:16 80:6 | 101:16 | Bailey 88:8 |
| appellate 13:4,12,14 21:1 53:14 59:6 61:1, 3,6,9 63:16,19 86:21 87:24 93:21 108:23 | arguments 15:22 30:15 60:7,10 76:17 | attention 14:21 39:18 44:15 | awe 80:4 | balance 107:2 |
| appellates 87:11 | arises 26:6 90:1 | attested 92:5 | awkward 50:9 | balances 58:20 |
| apples 69:7 | articles 7:16 28:11 92:9 | attitude 53:2 | aye 5:10,11 90:14, 15 115:5,6 | ballot 7:13 12:15,17 28:8 31:14 60:15,17 68:10 72:21 92:7 98:21 106:10 111:18 114:22 115:19,22 117:20 |
| application 7:14 28:9 92:7 | articulate 59:19 | attorney 33:8,12 39:16 40:7 61:8 62:25 63:9 105:14 108:25 109:1 | eyes 5:12 | ballots 115:20 |
| applied 81:20 | articulating 59:15 | attorneys 39:16 41:4 55:16 60:5,8 61:17 62:20 64:7,18,20,21 66:17,18 67:19 84:10,21 85:3 99:6 100:5 104:6 | B | bam 75:3 |
| apply 59:10 | Asian 111:10 | attorneys' 63:13 | baby 68:17 | Bank 15:16 |
| appreciated 50:11 | aspect 75:5 78:5 | audiovisual 37:22 | back 20:23 22:11 24:16 25:2 26:5 39:10 54:7 69:23 71:6 76:6, 11,13 80:25 89:25 90:19 96:9 103:7 106:5 109:18 111:8 113:15,21 114:8,18 | Bar 94:3 96:1,7 98:14 102:10 108:21 118:24 |
| appreciation 77:22 | aspired 108:16 | August 81:22 | backdoor 25:7 33:14 | BAR's 67:12 |
| approaches 63:9 | assembling 42:14 | authenticity 49:14 | background 22:3 94:2 100:23 | barely 32:17 38:1 |
| appropriately 68:18 | assembly 11:15 16:20 17:3 35:1 44:6 58:14,16 65:12, 20 72:14 101:7, 14 106:19 | automate 34:16,18 | backgrounds 94:1 | based 8:7 33:17 37:16 54:14 56:11 93:11 |
| approximately 70:19 | asset 10:4,8 56:3 | automatically 51:21 75:3,8 | backlog 72:13,14,18,20 81:8,11,12 82:1 | basically 20:23 21:4 34:5 50:6,17 75:1,7, 11 76:17,24 |
| area 10:2,6 56:1,4 60:25 61:10 81:2 83:3 103:22 108:4 | assign 82:22 | avoid 41:7 | backlogged 83:4 | bathwater 68:17 |
| areas 56:5 78:18 88:6 103:13 | Association 15:16 | avoided 63:7 | backlogs 96:12 | Beatty 107:18 |
| arena 9:16 10:16 55:9 94:8 | assuming 53:3 | aware 17:3 26:6 35:22 42:1 65:20 | bad 69:7 75:20 89:5 | |
| arguing 21:7 | attempting 17:4 65:21 96:10 101:16 | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| beautiful 80:14 | 109:13 | blocked 75:2 | 9:21 | |
| begin 96:18 | bidding 109:25 | board 45:24 | breath 53:5 | <hr/> C <hr/> |
| beginning 40:4 | big 11:8 21:11 24:14 59:23 | bodies 82:5 112:24 | bridge 31:7 109:15,16, 20,22,23,25 | calendar's 74:25 |
| behalf 17:3,5 65:20,22 101:14,17 110:21 | 69:15 78:18 | body 44:5 49:8 111:12 | briefed 35:23 37:11 | call 5:2 24:23 71:24 88:14 110:8 113:21 114:22 115:11 |
| behaved 43:19 | bills 45:10 | boil 84:5 | briefs 21:7 | called 14:20 26:5 42:17 49:4 78:21 89:25 112:25 |
| behoove 75:10 | bit 20:16,17 21:17 23:1 51:17 61:9, 22 74:11 84:24 102:13 104:14 | bond 70:1 | bring 10:2,7,9,17 56:2 93:24 94:1 | calling 48:21 49:21 |
| belief 31:19 47:25 | black 53:16 | bonds 70:9 | bringing 39:18 44:15 45:1 56:14 77:14 113:15 | calm 45:11 |
| believed 107:10 | Blackley 23:6,7,9,23,25 24:2,5,11,14 25:1 44:22,23, 25 112:1,2,6,11 | book 67:15 | broken 48:2,5 83:8 | Cambodian 111:5 |
| believes 59:14 | Blackley's 24:20 116:16, 19,21 117:18,24 | books 87:25 | brought 72:13 74:5 83:1 92:16 | cancel 32:17 |
| bench 7:11 10:3,7,10, 13 20:20 21:22 28:6 50:16 55:15 56:2 87:8 92:4 93:18 96:2 98:14 99:10 | Blake 102:13 116:1,10 117:2,23 118:8 | bore 109:5 | buck 15:19 18:22 21:25 107:25 | candidacy 16:16 65:8 |
| bend 10:25 | blame 18:22 81:13 | bother 49:5 | building 41:20 44:3 | candidate 17:9,10 31:1 35:11 66:1,2 81:3 90:22 100:21 113:12 115:15,19 116:9 |
| Benedict 88:23 | blanket 40:23 41:8 49:19 67:1 72:3, 5 | bothers 73:23 | buildup 70:7 | candidate's 8:8,10 54:15,16 |
| benefit 34:21 103:7,10, 16 | blashed 87:14,15 | bottom 51:19 | burgeoning 81:8 | candidates 25:23 30:12 32:4 79:19 81:1 89:17 93:12 114:22,23 115:4,12,22,25 116:22 118:6 |
| Benjamin 61:20 82:4 | blazing 87:4 | boundary 106:22 | business 31:22 32:10 34:10,12 46:16 72:4,9 106:17 | busily 89:17 93:12 |
| Berkeley 81:4 | blind 38:12 | bounds 58:25 | button 24:9 | button 62:11 81:2 |
| bias 107:2 | | box 7:13 12:15,17 28:8 60:15,17 68:10 71:19 72:21 92:7 98:21 106:10 111:18 | Bradley 39:17,22 40:5 | button 24:9 |
| bid | | brand | | candidly 50:5 99:17 |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| can't 98:17 110:1 112:3 | 75:23 84:16 85:13 86:4 94:13,18,22 | 71:1 73:1 77:19 90:8,19 93:10 101:19,25 107:24 112:19 115:11 | Cherokee 14:8 | citing 60:5 |
| capable 98:25 | cases 10:14,15 15:23 18:16 23:17 34:16,20 43:13 46:7 55:21 56:11 63:22 68:14 74:6 81:8, 24 82:8,14,17 85:19 102:15,16 105:17 106:25 | challenges 95:24 | Chet 110:9,10,18 111:7 | citizen 34:8 45:20 57:10 |
| capacity 29:1 94:3,11 | | chamber 24:8 | chief 62:10 83:3 98:2 100:3 102:19 107:18 | citizens 15:25 31:10 42:2,7 43:21 64:23 118:23 |
| caption 14:9 | | chambers 74:12 | children 9:22 | Citizen's 100:13 |
| cardiologist 32:12 | | chance 21:13 22:22 | choice 60:22 | civil 10:9,16 14:3,13 20:7 21:16 22:5 69:18 81:5,11 |
| care 72:14 82:17 | Caskey 112:18,19 114:13,14 | change 21:11 31:7 49:3 51:1 55:2 95:21 99:15 | chomping 84:24 | clarification 67:23 |
| career 18:7 51:7 54:24 79:12 86:13 | cast 53:6 90:21 114:20 | changed 106:6 | choose 79:20 | clarify 66:23 |
| careers 11:25 | catch 18:25 | changing 95:19 | chose 72:16 | class 109:15,16,21 |
| caring 23:13 | cautioned 6:5 26:23 29:22 91:11 | character 12:20,22 16:3 65:3 100:19 | chosen 33:19 88:20 | classmates 111:19 |
| Carolina 12:23 13:2 26:10 63:25 90:6 99:2,3 | center 14:23 | charge 18:20,24 19:5,9, 20,21 20:9 45:1 | Cindy 21:14,20 | clear 19:10 31:15 51:23 53:15 72:15 |
| Carolina- 74:6 | centered 61:10 99:9 | charged 18:19 33:23 35:13 53:7 | circle 111:20 | Clemson 74:7 |
| carried 13:24 | central 74:22,25 | charges 33:24 41:22,24 | circuit 9:24 10:1,13 13:10,14 14:12 17:24 21:13 28:23 33:1 34:4 37:16 61:3,8,20, 23 68:20 69:15 74:15 82:2,4,15 83:8,18,22 86:8 87:7,13 93:19 100:9 103:3,20 104:4,8 107:7 109:4 112:8 | clerk 8:20 19:19,21 20:3 23:11 44:25 61:14 81:16 85:4 88:10 104:18 |
| carry 13:20 85:21 | certiorari 59:9 | Charleston 78:17 81:4 82:23 107:6 | Circuit's 69:15 | clerk's 41:10 |
| carrying 84:1 | cetera 82:10,11 | Chea 110:18 | circuits 69:6 | clerked 82:23 |
| carve 76:5 | chairing 102:14 | check 7:18 18:1 28:12 49:8 | | clerks 19:15 100:5 103:25 104:3,18 |
| case 14:2,4,17 15:2, 11,18 18:17,19 20:1,3,11 33:18 41:1,4 48:7 55:18 59:20,21 60:11 64:6,17 67:21 71:24 | Chairman 5:20 7:25 8:4 17:11 26:11 30:3 34:24 42:12 49:22,24 54:13 66:3 68:3 | checks 58:19 | | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| click 86:16 | comment 16:9 23:10 | 31:4 | 47:21,23 50:14, 16 54:5 58:6 | conduct 31:9 79:14 |
| client 40:9 47:21 76:9 | 24:20 39:14,16, 19,22 40:10,14, 20 47:13 53:25 | common 10:15,17 41:13 83:9 84:17 | 85:10 | conference 18:21 |
| close 13:8 43:6 | 57:21 63:4 79:21 112:2 | communicated 111:17 | complaints 57:22 58:3 80:22,23 | conferences 40:24 |
| closed 113:19 | commented 88:8 | communicates 96:25 | compliance 7:15 28:10 92:8 | confidence 57:5,7,9,14 58:1,9 63:12,13 96:15 |
| cloud 53:17 | comments 12:16,18 13:3, 16 60:16,18,24 68:11,12 69:11 72:8 73:5,9 78:10 89:4 98:23,24 99:8 105:3 106:9,12 112:20 | communicating 97:2 | compliment 106:4 | confines 79:6 |
| coaster 57:6 | commission 5:4 6:10 7:10 12:15 16:16 17:15 25:22 27:2 28:5,21 30:2,11,14,17 31:9 35:12 54:7 60:15 65:7 66:5 82:9 89:17 92:3, 14,22 98:20 101:3,22 107:10,13 115:14 116:24 | communication 33:14 63:6,7 66:15 96:18 | compliments 55:17 | conflict 31:20,23,24 34:11,13 |
| Coble 62:1,8 | committee 7:25 15:25 16:8 31:8 64:24 100:14,20,22 102:14,17 103:1 118:23 | communications 32:6 33:7 36:17 40:1 | computer 40:8 | conflicts 7:18 28:13 92:11 |
| coffee 24:8,9 25:6 | commit 70:2 | comp 21:16 74:17 | concern 25:13 60:25 61:10,13 62:16 67:5 70:21 | confusing 97:23,25 98:13 |
| Cole 13:22 14:3 | Commission's 25:22 89:16 | compare 21:12 | concerned 63:23 68:9 75:4 98:9 | conscientious 12:25 |
| collaborative 104:1,4,22 | commitment 42:7 85:22 | compared 83:24 | concerns 13:3,6,17 17:8 23:15 60:25 62:13,21 65:25 99:8,11 | consent 8:10 54:16 67:4 71:7,20,21 93:13 |
| colleague's 77:23 | comfortable 46:3,9 | comparing 87:9 | conclude 25:19 114:8 | consented 66:17 |
| colleagues 98:19 100:4 | commencement 80:5 | compel 86:18 | concluded 119:7 | consents 67:21 |
| collective 102:23 | commend 89:5 106:14 111:15 | competent 53:10 | concludes 89:14 | conservative 10:22 |
| college 88:23 104:19 | | competing 104:11 | conclusion 39:20 40:10 | consideration 34:25 75:16 88:15 115:21 |
| color 110:16 | | complacent 55:1 | concurrence 97:18 98:2,9 | considerations 106:19 |
| Columbia 107:5 | | complain 38:10 49:6 | concurrences 59:24 97:23 | considered 44:14 115:17 |
| comfort 42:7 85:22 | | complainant 29:13 | concurring 12:4,6,10,12 59:4,23 60:1,3 97:16 | considers 59:8 |
| comfortable 46:3,9 | | complained 38:19 47:22 49:11 | | |
| commencement 80:5 | | complaint 30:3 34:25 | | |
| commend 89:5 106:14 111:15 | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| constitutional 8:11 14:15 16:6 54:17 64:25 93:14 100:15 | 95:25 96:3 100:2,11 119:3 | correcting 22:12 | 21 21:14,15,16 23:1 25:15 | courts 45:4 59:6 61:4,5 63:17,19 103:14 108:14 |
| constitutionality 63:24 64:3 | continued 26:9 79:14 | correction 84:17 | 26:18 28:23 30:14 32:3,25 33:2,15,18 36:7 37:15,17 38:5,7 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | cover 71:17 |
| constrained 81:7 | Contrary 112:22 | Corrections 82:11 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | CRATER 117:8,13,22,25 118:3,5 |
| constraints 103:18 | contributed 28:22 | correctly 111:6 | 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | Crawford 40:3 92:21 93:3, 5,10 101:19 115:9,11,25 116:9,12,14,17, 20,22 117:9,16, 19,23 118:1,4,6, 14 |
| constructive 77:5 | contributes 58:9 81:25 83:12 87:21 | corrupt 36:17 38:4 48:6, 14,17,21 49:4, 21 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | create 48:10 50:22 106:20 |
| contact 17:2 65:19 101:13 109:11 | control 37:22 38:3 63:9 70:1 81:10,18 | corruption 36:18 47:19,25 48:1 51:10 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | created 31:5 38:16 |
| contacted 16:15 65:7 101:3 | convention 15:20 | Cothran 42:19 43:19 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | creative 102:15 |
| contacting 16:19 65:11 101:6 | conversation 36:1,3 66:21 | counsel 5:4 7:23 35:22 37:8 39:12 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | crime 70:3 |
| contained 8:8 12:17 36:1 54:14 60:17 93:11 | conversational 63:3 | counties 43:22 44:18 45:16 82:7 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | criminal 10:9,14 20:7 21:16 22:5 41:24 44:12 71:22 81:5,11 |
| context 47:15 50:11 63:18 | conversations 77:8 | county 14:8,23 43:21, 23 44:2,20 45:2, 8 62:4 69:25 72:15,19 78:13, 17 81:2,4,7 82:6,16,20 84:18 94:21 107:9,12,22 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | criteria 7:12 16:2,6 25:22 28:7 30:13,22 35:12 52:13 64:25 65:2 89:2,7,17 92:6 100:15,17 113:12 |
| continuance 31:21 32:12,20 34:9 37:21,24 40:18 41:6,8 66:16 67:3,4,5, 22 71:12 72:2 81:24,25 | Cooper 82:24 | couple 11:11 16:12 21:16 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | critical 70:12 |
| continuances 46:20,24 47:3, 10 49:20 66:22 85:11 | coordination 32:14 33:3 | court 5:24 8:17,22 9:24 10:1,3,4,7, 8,13,16 11:10 12:13,14,21,24 13:2,7,10,13,14, 15,19,24 15:4, | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | courthouse 23:21 24:4,12 43:24 46:10 |
| continue 28:25 45:3,16 46:2 83:16 | copy 86:11 | courtroom 13:1 20:23 42:8 43:25 44:3,11 56:9,12 85:12 | 44:25 45:20 46:1 52:22 54:23 56:2,3,7,8 58:20,21 59:7,8, 10,12 60:4,10, 13,14,21,22 61:1,3,7,8,20 62:25 64:1,11, 16 67:12,17,18 69:18,24 74:15 79:16 81:6 82:4, 21 83:7,8,18,22 86:8 87:7,8,14, 17 88:5 89:1 91:7 93:17,19, 24,25 94:2,4,14, 19 95:5,24 96:10,25 98:1, 18 99:4,5,9,14, 19,24 100:2,6,8, 10,11 102:5,8 103:2,3,5,6,11, 12,19,21 104:4, 5,8,20 106:21 107:7,8 108:10, 11,12,23,24 109:3,4,6 112:8 113:2,24 115:13 | courtrooms 44:7 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| criticism 73:5 77:2 | 23:16 32:23 37:24 38:6 | defend 48:19 | Department 82:11 | diligent 18:3 |
| criticized 62:18,23 | 47:11 51:12 53:20 55:13 | defendant 14:13 | depending 45:7 108:9 | diligently 72:22 |
| criticizing 76:24 | 71:15 74:18 75:4,22 78:23 | defendant's 15:13 | deposition 67:8 | diminish 36:9 102:1 |
| cross 109:24 | 81:6 84:18 | defendants 81:6 | deputies 14:25 | dinners 88:21 |
| crossword 88:1 | days 32:1,19 74:23 | defended 38:20,23 | Derham 13:21 | dire 33:21,23 44:1, 11 |
| crying 48:5 | 75:2 78:14,19, 24 84:18,19 | defender 39:3 | describe 10:19 48:12 | direction 102:19,21 |
| curious 56:19,24 66:17, 22 | Deadra 116:2,14 117:16 | defer 58:13,15 | 49:17 56:16 | directions 60:14 |
| curtain 51:23 | 118:1 | deficiencies 58:22 | 94:25 95:16 | disagree 46:19 47:1 48:16 49:20 |
| cut 8:24 | deal 22:4 53:2 82:14 86:15 102:9 | defined 51:2 52:13 | deserve 53:18 | disagreed 12:7 98:10 |
| cutting 20:10 | dealing 70:8 102:14 | delay 62:6 84:9 86:12, 17 87:21 | deserves 38:5 | disciplinary 57:24 58:6 |
| | dealt 47:22 95:4 | deliberating 88:3 | deserving 26:1 89:21 | discord 102:10 |
| | death 10:14 63:24 64:10 | deliberations 26:2 89:22 | desire 113:1 | discovery 64:4,8,17,18 83:14 86:1 |
| D | decades 110:19 | delighted 68:8 | detention 14:23 | discuss 35:10,11 |
| dad 80:10,15 | December 61:15 | delve 75:6 80:25 | determination 75:8 | discussed 87:22 |
| danger 12:11 60:4 97:21 98:12 | decide 74:10 104:24 | demanding 47:9 | detriment 34:22 | discussing 99:21 |
| dangers 12:9 60:2 | decided 99:22 | demeanor 23:15 33:21,25 55:14 62:17,18 | devote 75:24 | discussion 66:13 |
| data 6:8 26:25 | decision 53:8 56:25 97:1, 4 108:13 | demeanors 43:4 | didn't 100:7 108:1 109:17 | dismiss 15:4,14 83:14 86:19 |
| date 16:24 41:2 65:16 71:14 101:11 118:12 | decisions 34:7 51:8 56:10 58:21 59:5,23 61:7 85:2 88:17 103:15 114:21 | Democratic 82:9 | difficult 67:17 | dismissed 14:17 15:7 58:6, 7 92:14 |
| daunting 111:9 | deduct 17:25 | denying 86:18 | difficulty 61:15 | |
| day 13:21 20:24 21:2,8,9 22:5 | | | dig 49:12 | |
| | | | diligence 11:25 | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Disneyland 32:16 67:7 | doesn't 109:23 110:15 | 12:19 33:19,20 41:12 | eight-hundred 106:9 | 35:25 43:10 |
| dispersions 53:7 | don't 95:11,19 99:20, 25 102:4,7 | | elaborate 97:21 | enhance 78:7 |
| disposed 86:1 | 104:1 106:13 | E | elect 98:3 100:8 119:4 | enjoy 8:18 21:22 22:2, 22 23:3 24:17 100:2 |
| disposition 23:14 | 107:15 108:25 109:2,14 112:2, 20 | E- 86:14 | elected 13:22 83:19 96:11 100:10 108:21 | enjoyed 9:25 13:9 22:25 23:1 93:18,20, 22,23 100:1 104:15,16 |
| dispositive 15:10 | door 74:8 | earlier 24:21 54:25 67:2 80:15 105:2 | electing 82:1 | enjoys 22:1 |
| disrespectful 98:16 | doubt 102:4 | early 25:6 34:5 | election 7:20 28:15 82:9 92:13 118:11 | ensure 42:6 |
| dissecting 88:3 | downplayed 34:1 | ease 45:24 | elements 56:11 | entered 91:14 |
| dissent 59:13,22 98:9, 12,16,17 | downplaying 33:22 | easily 73:11 | eleven 10:12 | enters 44:3 |
| dissenting 12:4,6,10,12 59:4 60:3 97:16 | draft 104:5 | easy 56:21 | email 63:10 74:23 | entertain 114:11 |
| distant 84:15 | drafted 104:8 | echo 51:5 100:9 | emotional 80:11 | entertains 31:20 |
| distaste 66:25 | drafting 103:20 104:25 105:1 | economic 7:18 28:13 92:11 | empathize 51:25 52:9 | entire 107:14 |
| distinguishes 87:7 | dragged 85:12 | editorial 79:21 | emphasize 76:20 | entirety 86:13 |
| district 15:4 19:4 83:2 | drill 113:11 | Edward 39:17 | emulate 86:11 | entities 82:12 |
| divide 31:10 | dry 105:12 | effect 33:11 | enable 84:12 | entitled 14:2 |
| divided 44:7 | dryness 109:9 | effectively 87:2 106:21 | encourage 33:5 45:2,16 46:2 69:4,9 | epitaph 111:22 |
| divorce 32:25 | due 52:5 61:17 111:21 | efficiency 96:8,9 | end 32:8 33:3 40:5 47:14,17 48:9 61:25 62:21 101:1 115:17 | epitomizes 12:21 |
| docket 19:24,25 | duly 6:4 26:22 29:21 91:10 | efficient 99:7 | ended | equation 52:4 |
| dockets 22:6 | duties 78:11 98:4,8 | effort 102:9,23 104:1, 4,22 | | eradicated 73:11 |
| documents 6:18 31:17 33:5, 6 | duty | ego 97:8 | | Erin |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <p>92:25 errors 50:23 ethic 12:24 ethical 16:2 38:8 65:2 96:17 100:18 ethics 7:15 25:24 28:10 89:19 92:9 113:13 evaluate 37:5 evaluating 35:13 102:16 evaluative 7:12 16:2,6 25:22 28:7 30:13,22 35:12 64:25 89:2,7,16 92:6 100:15,17 113:11 event 32:23 44:20 113:21 events 57:8 eventually 76:2 everyone's 11:22 67:10 evidence 36:16 47:19 48:1,9 evidently 39:24 EXAMINATIO N 8:14 17:17 54:20 66:8 68:4 71:4 73:2 77:20</p> | <p>79:25 93:4 101:23 106:2 examine 49:10 exceedingly 89:7 excel 87:24 excellent 13:1 60:21,22 99:4 exception 50:12 exceptional 112:9 excuse 110:11,13 execution 63:25 64:3,11 executions 64:13 executive 5:6,7,13,14,15, 16 90:8,10,17, 18,20 114:4,5, 12,16,17,20 exhibit 6:12,21,24 7:2,5 27:9,16,20,24 30:7 91:19,22 exist 31:23 existed 52:24 existing 59:11,17,21 exists 31:24 expanding 11:10 expect</p> | <p>50:21 98:17 113:12 expects 25:23 89:17 expedite 81:10 experience 10:10,18 12:19 13:4 16:4 18:15 19:2 50:9 56:13 61:1 65:4 96:20 100:19 103:2 108:15 experienced 11:24 23:16 43:9 60:18 experiences 56:20,21 experiencing 45:22 experts 67:9 explain 9:16 50:25 55:10 94:8 explored 83:25 exponentially 82:13 express 13:3 expressed 99:8 extent 52:10 58:12 74:16 81:18 103:21 extract 60:13 extremely 12:24 60:18 78:8 79:13</p> | <p>110:24,25 <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <hr/> face 42:5 facing 41:23 103:4 fact 25:16 32:13,24 33:10 40:7 49:3 60:11 62:17 73:18 104:18 105:3 facts 59:10,17,18 fail 52:11 fair 12:25 18:5,6 57:12 69:19 97:9 fairly 23:19 55:21 fairness 63:14 75:11 faithful 32:5 fall 15:15 falling 78:16 familiar 16:18,21 42:25 43:2 65:10 84:15 92:1 101:5 familiarity 103:13 families 42:3 72:4</p> | <p>family 21:15 32:25 33:2,18 36:7 88:19 93:19 94:14 103:2,6, 18 104:5 107:7 108:12 109:4 fan 68:8 fantastic 93:25 100:5 105:23 fashion 43:20 84:11,13, 21 86:24 father 55:4 61:22 80:12 87:3,5,9, 13,16 Faulk 8:3,4,7,15 15:24 17:7 favor 5:10 90:14 115:3 116:5 fears 45:11,25 feal 31:10 36:5 37:18 45:18 50:6 51:24 53:4 55:15,23 56:22 57:11 58:8 94:9 95:5 feeling 44:19 46:9 feels 46:3 53:3 62:7 felt 33:2 51:18 88:24 97:20 98:10</p> |
|--|---|--|--|---|

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| fewer 89:5 | 100:7 | fooled 63:1 | 39:17 51:11,17 55:13 62:5 64:4, 19 67:11,14 87:20,25 93:21 | gave 13:22 35:17 39:24 40:15 |
| fighting 34:3 | fitness 16:2 65:2 100:18 | force 77:13 | | gavel 13:20 |
| figure 77:10 | five-hundred 106:8 | forcing 81:23 | Friday 80:3 | gears 20:16 50:12 |
| figured 24:2 | fix 70:8 | foremost 95:3 | friend 80:18 110:25 | general 10:17,19 11:14 16:19 17:3 22:4 35:1 40:20 41:14,19 56:16, 18 58:14,16 62:10,25 65:11, 20 72:14 87:10 94:14,25 101:6, 14 106:18 |
| figuring 79:6 | fixable 69:22 | forget 56:9 74:3 109:1, 2 | friendly 42:5 | generally 22:10 62:22 63:3 96:24 97:3 |
| file 31:25 34:9 41:6 | flat 18:18 20:15 | forgotten 84:25 | friends 20:22 111:20 | geographical 106:22 |
| filed 7:19 14:1,3,15, 22,25 28:14 72:5 92:12 | fled 111:6 | form 85:25 86:14 | front 8:23 15:20 20:19 49:18,25 75:1 80:3 118:15 | Geter 14:18 |
| filing 86:15 | flexibility 74:19 | formal 26:4 89:23 113:19 | full 76:25 98:24 106:18 | gift 87:6 |
| fill 72:17 87:3 | Flynn 21:18 | formidable 99:3 | fun 21:10 | gifts 88:21 |
| final 117:7 | Focus 36:25 | forums 52:8 | function 17:24 61:6 | give 19:14 35:9 39:10 43:17 50:10 60:6 62:17,19 63:2 64:5 73:6 79:17 84:16 85:11 97:2,11,25 98:13 110:15 |
| finally 16:12 110:8 | focused 7:12 28:7 74:2 | forward 29:17 43:12 67:21 | funny 48:4 | giving 24:16 46:23 81:24 83:6 |
| find 21:10 67:15 74:14 75:4 114:25 | focusing 30:22 | foster 11:18,19 96:15 | future 11:4 18:14 57:1 95:16 | glad 17:19 102:25 |
| finding 105:10 115:4 | folk's 42:18 | fosters 12:1 97:5 | | |
| fine 71:10 | folks 31:12 50:21 85:11 86:7 89:4 96:20,24 97:3 99:21 100:6 106:6 107:11 109:8 110:5 114:15 118:20 | found 16:5 69:14 96:24 118:7 | G | |
| finest 99:1 | follow 10:24 12:9 25:23 60:2 89:18 | foundation 58:25 | gain 57:4 | |
| finish 37:11 114:6 | food 43:16 44:16 60:6 | four-hundreds 106:8 | gals 108:1 | |
| fireplace 13:23 | | Fourth 61:20 82:4 | game 74:7 | |
| firm 33:1 47:8 | | frame 41:11 | gathering 102:8 | |
| fit | | frankly | gauge 78:5 | |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 113:2 | grant | 59:14 77:22 | happening | 20 40:4,6,8,11, |
| glowing | 31:21 40:22 | 81:17 85:2 | 58:5 | 14 47:14,17 |
| 100:22 106:12 | 67:4 | 86:21 88:17 | happiest | 48:10,24 58:6 |
| goal | granted | 102:6 103:3 | 100:9,11 | 69:13 74:18 |
| 43:15 55:20 | 32:12,21 34:5 | 108:8 | happy | 80:6 |
| 56:23 57:10,17 | 37:24 103:23 | guessing | 37:13 42:8 51:3 | hearings |
| godson | granting | 12:14 | 64:19,20 77:23 | 31:21 34:21 |
| 111:14 | 15:13 46:20 | guest | 79:14 97:4 | 36:21 119:6 |
| good | 47:3 49:19 59:8 | 29:3 | hard | heartburn |
| 5:2,18,19,22 6:7 | 86:18,20 | guidance | 10:10 74:1 | 64:5 |
| 8:3,4,6 11:7 | grasp | 59:15 102:18 | harder | heavy |
| 12:1,2 15:24 | 79:10 | 105:16 | 69:21 76:21 | 26:1 89:21 |
| 17:20 23:7,8 | great | gut | hate | heck |
| 26:13,14 29:2,6, | 79:17 86:15 | 51:14 | 52:25 | 22:7 |
| 25 30:1 33:11 | 98:1,6 103:16, | guy | headquartered | held |
| 39:21 40:11,12 | 21 | 74:4 | 82:12 | 5:14 15:14 |
| 44:23,24 47:18 | greatest | guys | heads | 90:18 107:7 |
| 54:11 55:11 | 9:15,18,22,23 | 19:10 108:1 | 60:9 | 114:17 |
| 58:19 61:22 | 55:8,11 94:7,9, | | health | helpful |
| 62:9 66:10,11 | 24 | H | 16:7 65:1 | 73:7 105:14 |
| 68:6,7 73:24 | green | | hear | Helping |
| 79:18 87:15 | 8:23 | hand | 29:12 30:15 | 84:11 |
| 89:5 93:3,6 98:8 | Greenville | 6:1 26:20 29:19 | 35:8 36:25 | helps |
| 104:8 110:25 | 18:17 107:5 | 32:8 81:17 | 37:13,21 43:7 | 67:13 86:15 |
| gotta | 112:11 | 116:6 | 47:12 50:19 | Hewitt |
| 50:10 | Greenwood | Hand- | 77:7 80:9 84:19 | 102:13,25 |
| government | 107:5 | 96:7 | heard | 105:2,22 116:2, |
| 59:1 82:7 | greet | handful | 11:2 17:23 39:1 | 10 117:2,12,15, |
| governmental | 41:24 42:4 | 63:15 | 46:17 47:22 | 23 118:8 |
| 82:12 | greeted | handle | 52:21,22 54:4 | Hey |
| grade | 42:20 | 19:7 55:21 | 55:19 56:23 | 32:1 52:2 76:10 |
| 111:7 | grievances | 68:18 79:11 | 57:11 58:4,8,10 | he's |
| graduate | 95:4 | 82:20 102:15 | 62:19 63:22 | 110:25 111:3,12 |
| 80:13 | group | handling | 68:11 81:3 | high |
| graduating | 44:10 | 66:24 | 83:12,13 84:23 | 79:19 89:7 |
| 81:21 | grow | hands | 89:4 91:4 95:4,6 | 119:3 |
| graduation | 55:2 | 76:25 117:15 | 96:21,23,25 | highest |
| 66:19 80:8 | growing | happen | 109:7 | 12:23 96:5,6,17 |
| grandchildren | 11:13 | 18:10 53:22 | hearing | 100:21 |
| 9:23 | guess | 57:8 69:25 70:5 | 30:6,11,19 32:7, | highlight |
| grandson | 18:12 19:12,19 | 74:13 76:3 | 19,21 33:4 | 58:22 |
| 9:21 | 22:3 48:14 51:4 | | 37:20,23 39:15, | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| highly 79:15 | hour 45:8 | immediately 43:25 | 14:4 | 70:7 |
| hindsight 53:21 | hours 51:13 76:4 | immunity 36:15 | include 10:14 | inmate 14:22 |
| Hinson 28:19 29:24,25 30:2,10 36:2 40:3 54:8,11,13, 21 65:24 66:4 | house 13:24 108:3 114:5,9 118:17 | impact 24:14 | included 7:13 8:9 16:8 28:8 54:15 88:24 93:12 98:24 111:20 | input 96:1,2 118:22 |
| hip 88:15 | housekeeping 16:13 65:5 101:1 | impartial 97:10 | includes 92:6 | inquiry 7:11 28:6 |
| hit 24:9 76:20 | huge 68:8 | impartiality 63:14 | including 14:25 16:18 65:10 101:5 | inside 60:9 |
| hold 35:2 119:3 | Hughes 15:16 | imperfection 53:13 | inclusivity 111:18 | instance 18:15 64:15 |
| homes 42:3 | humans 82:20 | implement 94:12 | incorporated 17:9 66:1 | instigated 63:11 |
| honest 32:5 38:8 53:11 | hundred 98:22 | implementation 31:17 | incorrect 15:9 | instilling 57:17 |
| honestly 11:7 111:2 | hungry 25:5 | implemented 94:22 | increases 82:13 | institute 24:15 |
| honor 45:19 71:22 | I | importance 34:1 | Increasing 57:19 | instruction 73:7 |
| honorable 5:25 7:7 26:18 27:18,22 28:1 115:25 116:1,2, 3,4,5,9,14,15, 17,20 117:1,2, 16,17,20,23 118:1,4,8,9 | idea 41:18 50:13 | important 8:20 31:3 33:22 46:8 69:2,3 87:23 88:24 94:23 96:19 | integrity 40:16 96:6,7 | intelligent 98:25 |
| Hood 44:8 62:9 | ideal 99:18 | importantly 32:2,21 50:22 | intelligent 98:25 | intent 16:15,22 41:21 58:17 65:6,14 101:2,9 114:4 |
| hope 28:25 37:7 44:16 57:4,9 77:6 107:8 112:1 | IDENTIFICATI ON 6:22,25 7:3,6 27:17,21,25 30:8 91:20,23 | impressed 78:9 | intention 42:5 43:18,20 44:21 | intentionally 77:12 |
| Horry 82:23 107:22 | identify 9:14 55:7 94:6 | impression 43:17 | interact 56:12 | interactions 37:16 |
| hotel 32:13 | ignore 73:14 | impropriety 25:25 89:20 97:7,11 113:14 | interchange 47:16 | interest 7:18 28:13 64:12 67:20 |
| | III 116:1,6 117:2 | improvements 78:8 | | |
| | imagination 10:24 | in-hand 96:8 | | |
| | imagine 111:9 | inappropriate 63:12 | | |
| | | incarcerated | | |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|--|
| 79:3 92:11 | inviting | it's | jest | 17:12,13,15,19, 24 19:4 21:2 |
| interested | 45:12 | 102:6,23 103:19 | 40:11 | 23:5,8,13,21,24 |
| 87:19 | invoked | 104:1,15 | Jeter | 24:1,3,6,13,17, 18 25:4,8,11,18 |
| interesting | 46:17 | 105:11,14 | 14:2 | 26:7,11,14,19 |
| 42:13 43:7 | invoking | 107:22 108:11 | job | 27:7,11,15 |
| internationally | 87:1 | 109:2 | 9:8,11 12:1 | 28:16,20,23 |
| 32:11 | involved | ivory | 39:21 40:12 | 29:4,10,11,15 |
| internet | 32:11,15 33:1 | 108:15 | 46:7 47:18 | 30:21 31:14 |
| 31:16 | 41:14 56:13 | I'd | 55:13,24 77:13 | 33:8,10,20 |
| interpret | 57:22 64:7 | 94:1,2 99:13 | 78:11 81:20 | 36:13 37:5,15 |
| 58:16,18 | 67:20 104:23 | 105:12 108:2 | 84:1 85:21 | 39:9,13 41:25 |
| interpreter | 108:21 | I'll | 86:22 89:10 | 42:12,19 43:14, 19 44:3,8,11,24 |
| 95:10 | involving | 100:10 104:5 | 103:18 104:2 | 46:4,12,19,25 |
| interruptions | 39:15 | I'm | 107:9 | 47:12 48:7,8 |
| 113:8 | Ironically | 62:22 94:16 | jobs | 49:24 50:1 54:3, 10,11,12,16,22 |
| intervene | 33:17 | 95:10 98:2,18 | 42:2 | 55:7,9,15,17 |
| 17:4 65:21 | irritant | 100:10 102:7, 12,23 103:6 | Jocelyn | 56:1,16 57:1 |
| 101:16 | 80:22 | 104:23 105:20 | 26:18,22 27:18, 23 28:2 87:17 | 58:12,13,15 |
| intervening | isn't | 107:3,17,18 | 116:3,18,23 | 59:3,20 60:4,15, 18,20,21 61:19, 21,24,25 62:8,9, 10 63:5,15 |
| 33:10 | 107:15 | 109:14 111:1 | 118:8 | 64:24 66:5 68:6, 19 71:13 72:16 |
| interviewing | isolated | I've | join | 73:17 74:5 |
| 100:23 | 108:14,22 | 93:1,20,22 | 26:17 | 76:22 80:2,12, 13 82:2,3,4,22, 24 86:7 88:15, 23 89:12 90:2,4, 7,22,25 91:5,16, 18 92:1,18,23 |
| intimately | isolating | 94:15 99:13 | joined | 93:6,13,16,21 |
| 56:13 57:22 | 108:18 | 102:2 104:16 | 102:12 | 94:6,8,17,25 |
| introduce | isolation | 107:4,5 111:2 | joke | 97:15 98:20 |
| 29:3 | 109:9 | | 46:6 63:1 | 99:1,2,4 100:3, 9,11,13,14 |
| introduced | issue | J | | 102:13,17,19,25 |
| 111:19 | 41:9 59:15 | | joking | 103:15 105:2, 14,22 106:17 |
| introvert | 61:11,17 64:2,4, 17,22 67:6,10, 14 68:19 78:15, 21,22 81:23 | jail | 45:12 53:22 | |
| 87:25 | 107:21 | 34:6 | jokingly | |
| intuitive | issued | James | 40:13 | |
| 61:8 | 15:2 64:11 | 15:19 21:24 107:21,25 | jovial | |
| invade | issues | January | 33:20 | |
| 59:1 | 34:4 59:7 66:24 78:23 86:21 88:4 | 14:2 15:11 | judge | |
| investigated | issuing | Jefferson | 5:18,20,22,25 6:2,11,16,20 7:21,24 8:5,6, 10,16,23,25 9:2, 4,15,24 10:1,13, 23 12:15,18,21 13:10,21,25 15:4,8 16:1,5,9 | |
| 7:10 28:5 | 84:2 85:2 87:21 | 116:2,14 117:16 118:2 | | |
| investigation | | jerked | | |
| 17:8 65:25 92:3 100:24 | | 73:19 | | |
| invitation | | | | |
| 118:18 | | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| 107:7 112:5,8, 10,15,20 113:4, 7,17,22 114:1 | jurist 16:9 78:13 | Kelly 5:18,20,22,25 6:2,4,11,16,20, 23 7:1,4,8,24 8:6,10,25 9:2,4 12:15,18,21 13:25 14:18 15:8 16:1,5,9 17:13,15 21:19 23:5,8,21,24 24:1,3,6,13,17 25:4,8,11,19 26:7,11 116:3, 15 117:17 118:4 | knowledgeable 46:1 | law 8:20 10:2,6,12, 23 19:15 20:3, 12 24:25 25:24 30:13,14 35:16 42:16 45:20 47:8 56:1,4,6,10 59:11,21 60:11 61:14 80:8 81:16 85:4 89:19 95:8,10 96:23 100:5 104:3,17,18 112:24 113:13 |
| judges 12:22 14:12 22:11 45:13,24 46:23 48:6,18 50:15 51:16 53:10 60:19 61:24 62:5 69:5 78:19 80:18 82:3 83:6,7,8,19 86:4,7 94:20 97:24 98:7,25 99:5 106:17 119:3 | jurists 38:8 | Kershaw 82:16 | <hr/> L <hr/> | law- 95:9 |
| judging 83:23 | juror 43:10 46:9 50:2 99:1 | Khmer 111:6 | lack 50:20 57:23 60:25 61:16 70:18 | laws 7:16 28:10 58:17 59:17 92:9 |
| judgment 86:20 | jurors 11:21 42:4,7,14, 24 45:1,5 62:21 78:4 | kids' 66:19 | lady 110:8 | lawsuit 14:1 |
| judicial 5:3 7:9 10:19,21 11:4,7,18,19 16:4 28:4 31:1, 8,9,11,13 35:17 36:15 56:17 57:2 65:4 68:21 92:2 94:25 95:2, 15,17 96:16 100:19 | jury 20:9 33:19 34:2 41:9,12,16,17, 24 42:17 43:25 44:6 | kind 18:14 20:22,25 21:2,4,11 22:11, 18 31:23 32:1 57:15 66:23 69:11 73:6,18 76:8,22 77:10 104:13 105:4,5, 8 | laid 74:11 77:24 | lawyer 9:15 21:14 42:24 47:16 48:3,7,25 55:8 69:7,9 76:7 94:7,10 111:14 |
| judiciary 9:12 34:6,17 57:5,9 58:24 96:7 97:12 | justice 8:16,18 13:11 15:19 21:24 38:11 56:8 59:14 60:21,24 98:3 99:3 107:18,21 | kindness 55:20 111:18 | lament 95:20 | lawyer's 55:17 |
| July 10:12 | justices 12:23 56:5 93:24 99:1 | Kittredge 98:3 | language 60:8 | lawyers 11:23 12:13 18:21,25 19:12 20:4 21:3 22:10 43:12 46:23 48:6 51:6,24 55:18 61:12 68:18 70:12 71:17 73:25 79:2 85:12 95:3 96:22 97:24 118:24 |
| jump 75:18 | justices' 60:9 | kneejerk 75:25 | large 47:7 59:12 61:18 62:6 69:6 | |
| June 118:11 | justly 55:21 | knew 20:17 | largely 82:16 | |
| | <hr/> K <hr/> | knock 69:17 | larger 43:22 44:2,18 45:2 79:5 | |
| | keenly 42:1 | knowing 25:13 | largest 106:11 | |
| | keeping 117:4 | | Larry 14:24 | |
| | Keith 5:25 6:4,23 7:1, 4,7 116:3,15 117:17 118:4 | | Lastly 62:13 89:1 | |
| | | | late 25:15 93:9 117:4 | |
| | | | Latitia 91:5 | |
| | | | latitude 35:9 38:24 | |
| | | | laugh 48:4 | |
| | | | laughing 42:21 | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| lay 114:7 | 106:24 | listen 43:8 50:16 56:24 62:22 | 14:21 | 39:14,16,19 40:10,11,19 47:13 53:12 59:5 73:5 89:4 97:1 108:14,18, 20 114:21 115:3 |
| leadership 94:3,11 | lessen 44:18 96:5 | listened 50:14 | lose 51:20 | Madison 10:5 17:14 |
| learn 48:3 55:2 | Letitia 90:23,25 91:1,7, 8,10,21,24 | listening 46:16 | loser 52:23 | magistrate 13:14 15:1,2 22:25 61:5 |
| learned 99:16 | 116:4,20,24 118:9 | Lister 21:18 | lost 61:19 | Magistrate's 108:11 |
| learning 18:15 19:2 87:20 | letter 16:14,22 25:24 65:6,14 71:9 89:18 101:2,9 110:23 113:13 | litigant 108:9 | lot 8:19 22:14 23:22 38:9,24 45:5,11 52:6 59:5,7 62:11 68:11,12 69:16 74:17 75:13 82:19 83:11,12 84:9 103:6 105:2 | main 11:3 |
| leave 44:4 67:13 95:5 | letting 75:19 | litigants 11:22 34:23 49:8 62:14,20 63:13 79:2 81:5 95:3 99:5 | love 13:18 21:7 48:22 | maintain 74:1 96:6 |
| Lee 61:21 82:3 | level 51:3 79:19 | litigating 40:19 | loved 74:7 | majority 78:9 86:1 97:19, 22 98:6,10 116:23 |
| left 42:9 111:11 | levels 94:20 | litigation 33:1 52:7 | loves 88:19 | make 7:22 10:23 11:9 12:20 13:1 28:17 32:4 34:7 38:1,7 41:21 42:6 46:9 51:23 53:15 56:10,25 58:17 59:21 60:10 72:2 73:13 77:11 78:7 80:23 84:11 86:1 92:20 97:13 |
| legacies 87:1 | library 20:12 | live 107:12 | lower 61:4 108:13 | maker 24:8 95:10 |
| legal 94:5 95:19 96:4 | life 9:23,25 29:5 34:3 56:20 63:2 69:2 70:12 74:1 99:17 | lived 107:4,5,6 | Luke 26:15 116:12 | makes 36:5 58:21 88:23 95:25 107:13 111:1,2 |
| legislation 34:17 58:21,22 | light 8:23 41:22 42:6 109:12 | lives 45:21 | lungs 48:23 | making 6:17,18 18:4 |
| legislative 34:15 | lighthearted 42:4,20 | located 41:11 | luxury 19:15 105:17 | |
| legislator 16:23 65:15 101:10 | lightheartedness 42:15 43:3 | Logan 18:19 | | |
| legislature 10:24 11:1 20:18 58:17 59:2 100:7 | limitations 16:19 65:11 101:6 | logs 96:9 | M | |
| legitimate 74:20 | limited 105:5,9 | long 22:6 24:19 53:4 57:13 58:11 78:14,23 80:25 92:23 94:12 102:10 | mad 38:10,14 108:2 | |
| lends 79:1 87:18 | Lindi 28:4 93:1 | longer 50:15 67:6 | Madame 91:7 | |
| length 51:7 | lines 17:21 39:21 | looked | made 19:4,10 24:14 27:12 30:4 | |
| lengthier 86:19 | | | | |
| lens | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|---|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|---|
| 27:13 43:3 53:8, 25 75:8 86:23 102:8 103:15 107:21 | malpractice 20:11 | man 33:23 34:2 76:8 110:10 | manage 67:17 | management 94:13,22 | manipulated 34:18 | manipulation 34:20 | manner 42:4,21 79:13 | Manning 61:25 | manpower 83:17,20 | mantle 13:23 | marked 6:21,24 7:2,5 27:9,16,20,24 30:7 74:25 91:19,22 | marks 100:21 | marriage 58:23 | marveled 79:12 | materials 7:14 24:21 28:9 92:8 | mathematician 88:2 | matter 26:16 30:15,16 38:11 41:15,24 48:18 49:16 79:3 107:9 | mattered 49:11,12 | matters 5:5 49:11,16 55:21 56:19 79:11 | may've 68:16 | Mccaslin 71:13 | Mcdaniel 88:8 | Mcdaniels 29:4,8 | Mciver 66:6,7,9 | meaningfully 76:21 | means 109:13 | measured 95:7,15 | measures 18:12 | medical 20:11 | meet 45:5 55:6 80:15 | meeting 5:3 9:9 34:10,12 55:4 | meetings 32:10 88:22 | meets 8:10 54:17 93:13 | Meisner 29:16,18,21,25 30:1,2,9,10,23 35:3,6,14,21,24 36:3,11,12,14, 24 37:2,6,14 38:23 39:2,7,14 40:15 41:11,14 43:8,17 44:8,14 46:18 47:2,12 49:18 52:5 53:3 58:2 | Meisner's 77:7 | member 39:24 106:23 115:14 116:25 | members 5:11 7:25 11:12 16:16,19 17:2, 14 30:17 41:17 65:7,11,19 66:4 90:15 92:22 101:3,6,13,21 108:3 114:6,8 115:6 118:17 | memory 84:15 | mental 16:7 65:1 100:16 | mentioned 6:15 14:8 41:9 67:3 72:21 | mentor 111:2,3 | merit 5:3 7:9 28:4 31:8 35:17 92:2 | message 63:10 | met 55:5 | methodical 88:13 | methods 63:24 64:3 | meticulous 88:14 | microphone 29:17 | mid 106:8 | Midlands 64:23 | million 53:8 | mind 51:10 71:16 | mindful 11:22 | mindng 46:15 | mine 76:6 91:4 | minimal 63:22 | minor 86:17 | minute 27:3 29:10 52:2 71:22 117:14 | minutes 25:17 | misconceptions 45:23 | missed 20:15 | missing 45:6 | mixed 98:13 | modify 18:14 | moment 41:3 55:5,6 80:14,15 86:22 105:16 | Monday 41:15 42:1 | months 78:15 81:16 84:23 99:25 | morning 5:2,18,19 8:4,6 23:7,8 25:10 26:13,14 29:7, 25 30:1 38:25 41:16 42:1 44:23,24 54:11, 12 66:10,11,12, 13 68:6,7 71:25 89:13 92:23 93:8 | mother 109:22 | motion 15:14 31:25 32:18 33:9 34:9 38:1 40:8,17 66:16 67:3 83:14 85:24 86:18,19 90:10 114:12,23 115:3 | motions 15:10 41:6,8 67:4 76:18 83:11 84:2,20 85:15 86:2,19 | mouth 47:19 | move 16:12 23:16 51:15 74:21 |
|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|---|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|---|

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| 90:8 114:25 117:20 moved 111:4,7 114:13, 14 moves 5:6 moving 67:21 86:24 102:21 multiple 32:14 45:13 46:22 52:6,8 municipal 61:5 murder 20:11 myriad 78:23 | nefarious 39:23 negative 68:12 69:11 70:7 73:8,9 89:8 106:13 negatives 97:17 nervous 45:5 Newman 26:14,18,19,22 27:7,11,15,19, 23 28:2,20 29:4, 11,15 31:14 33:8,10,20 36:13 37:5,15 39:9,13 42:13 43:14 44:24 46:12,19,25 47:12 50:1 54:3, 10,11,12,16,22 55:7 56:1,16 57:1 58:12 60:15,18,20,21 63:5,15 64:24 66:5 87:17 88:23 89:12 90:2,4,7 116:4, 18,24 118:9 Newman's 30:21 news 70:4 newspaper 7:16 25:7,10 28:11 92:9 newsworthy 57:8 nice 8:5 29:7 80:2 | nine-hundred 98:20 106:9 no-serve 15:2 nobody's 77:11 nomad 107:4 nominated 115:16,17 118:7 non-lawyer 52:1 nonelecting 81:9 nonjury 76:19 78:19 83:10 84:17 norm 50:4 normal 34:8 nostalgia 80:16 notably 63:17 note 8:7 15:24 17:7 26:2 54:13 63:25 64:23 65:24 89:22 93:10 100:13 109:12 Nothing's 106:6 notice 118:18 noticed 102:11 notion 50:17 number | 25:1 39:15 42:16 61:24 62:5 63:22 78:18 81:16 82:13,17 104:8 106:11 112:7 numbers 118:25 numerous 14:24 24:24 | offer 13:5 30:20 68:9 99:2 offered 40:3 80:15 offering 26:9 77:6 79:16 80:21 113:2 office 21:5 25:3 32:5 34:5 41:10 47:6 71:16 94:11,15 offices 71:18 official 45:4 oftentimes 62:7 older 69:20 78:14 open 26:3 45:3,12 46:4 47:19 80:24 89:23 92:21 opening 7:22 28:17 92:20 99:12 openings 99:20 opinion 12:4,6,10,12 23:18 33:21,25 37:17 45:18 59:4 60:1,3,5 63:18 97:16,19 98:6,10 opinions 63:19 98:14 105:13 opportunities 22:13 78:7 |
| <hr/> N <hr/> | | | | |
| naivete 50:20 named 14:13 names 115:12 National 15:16 nature 41:7 44:17 73:24 103:18 necessarily 19:13 50:8 51:9 53:6 56:4 58:3 98:5 needed 45:14 62:1 81:9 98:11 112:13 needless 74:8 | | | | |
| | | | | <hr/> O <hr/> |
| | | | | oath 32:5 object 6:17 27:13 objected 41:5 objection 6:20 30:6 91:17 110:6 objections 35:18 114:10,11 obligations 75:15 76:5 obtained 40:2 obvious 52:15 occasion 62:24 occasionally 97:8 occasions 15:9 63:15 occurred 50:23 Oconee 107:5 offended 49:2 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| <p>102:7</p> <p>opportunity 7:21,24 25:21 28:17 29:14 39:10 54:24 55:5 62:19 72:15 75:11 78:5 79:20 89:15 92:19 96:22,23 98:6 113:10</p> <p>opposed 90:16 103:25</p> <p>opposition 7:19 28:14 37:15 92:13 115:7</p> <p>oral 85:16</p> <p>order 5:4 15:2 22:22 47:11 68:15,25 72:3,6 75:25 85:24 86:16 103:20 115:9,13 117:1,3</p> <p>orders 22:10 24:6,10 61:11,18 66:14, 21 67:1,3,11,15 69:13 70:11,18, 20,22 71:6 72:12,20 78:16, 24 84:2,9,10,20 85:4,25 86:12, 14,17 87:21 104:6,7,8,11,12</p> <p>oriented 20:21</p> <p>outcome 16:24 65:16 101:11</p> | <p>outcomes 51:1</p> <p>outstanding 16:9,10 83:14 102:1 104:17</p> <p>Overruled 110:7</p> <p>overstep 58:24</p> <p>overturned 15:22</p> <p>overwhelming 114:10 118:25</p> <p>overwhelmingly 111:17</p> <p>Owens 63:17,23</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <hr/> <p>P-R-O-C-E-E- D-I-N-G-S 5:1</p> <p>p.m. 119:7</p> <p>pages 6:22,25 7:3 27:17,21,25 30:8 91:20,23</p> <p>pandemic 81:14,23</p> <p>panel 46:22 80:18</p> <p>paperwork 70:5</p> <p>Parenthood 82:10</p> <p>parents 80:11 88:21</p> <p>parents' 87:1</p> | <p>part 6:17,18 8:21 15:12,13 20:24 27:14 30:4 31:4, 10 43:6 49:5,19 54:8 57:25 59:12 63:16 64:1 77:9 81:22 96:12 106:24 109:17</p> <p>parte 32:6 33:7 36:16 40:1,25 41:5,7 48:8,24 63:6,7 66:14,15 67:6 75:5</p> <p>participants 34:23 106:10 111:17</p> <p>participate 39:5 40:6 119:1</p> <p>participated 89:3</p> <p>participation 113:8 118:24</p> <p>parties 17:2 56:24 65:19 67:20 101:13</p> <p>partner 29:5</p> <p>Party 82:9,10</p> <p>pass 85:20</p> <p>passed 58:23 84:23</p> <p>passes 84:14</p> <p>past 9:9 28:24</p> | <p>pasting 20:10</p> <p>patently 72:1,11</p> <p>path 87:4</p> <p>pay 45:10</p> <p>PDQ 6:23 7:1 8:8 27:18,22 54:15 91:13,21 93:12</p> <p>pediatrician 111:13</p> <p>peers 83:24 89:6,10</p> <p>penalty 10:14 63:24</p> <p>pencil 22:11</p> <p>pending 14:4 16:24 30:16 65:16 101:11</p> <p>people 14:24 20:20 21:4 32:14 34:5 36:7 37:22 38:2, 9,18 40:23 41:6 44:10 45:9,22 47:3 48:11 49:7, 17,21 50:7 52:11 53:17 55:19 56:12 58:3,9 60:6 69:1,3 73:17 77:7 80:7,21 81:13,21,23,24 87:9 89:3 95:20 105:7 106:11 107:12 108:13, 14</p> | <p>people's 68:23</p> <p>percent 31:12</p> <p>percentage 106:11</p> <p>perception 47:13</p> <p>perfect 53:11</p> <p>period 28:22 37:25 62:9 99:10,14</p> <p>Periodically 83:5</p> <p>periods 52:24</p> <p>permitted 29:1</p> <p>person 10:22 20:21 37:9 45:4 62:7 69:14 77:4 84:15 107:16 111:12</p> <p>person's 75:9</p> <p>personal 6:8 9:20,23 26:25 105:8 109:10</p> <p>personnel 99:6</p> <p>perspective 108:6</p> <p>phenomenal 23:12</p> <p>philosophy 10:20,21 56:17, 18 95:1,2,6,7,15</p> <p>phonetically</p> |
|---|--|--|--|---|

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 91:8 | pleasant | pools | 42:15 | previous |
| physical | 52:9 56:18 | 44:6 | practicing | 7:17 28:12 |
| 16:7 65:1 | 62:17,18,22 | pops | 10:12 | 92:10 |
| 100:16 | 63:3 | 51:10 | practitioner | previously |
| pick | pleased | popular | 47:9 | 27:2,8 |
| 94:18 | 78:9 | 81:4 108:8 | practitioners | pride |
| pilot | pleasure | populous | 52:15 | 80:9,10,20 |
| 67:12,13 | 20:18 23:10 | 81:5 | pre-judge | primarily |
| place | 80:5 | portion | 56:19 | 75:20 |
| 28:3 102:24 | pledge | 25:19 89:14 | pre-law | primary |
| places | 16:23 65:15 | position | 88:22 | 31:14 |
| 81:5 | 101:10 108:18, | 8:12 34:19 | precedent | prior |
| placing | 20 | 54:18 72:11 | 15:22 59:22 | 15:23 16:24 |
| 48:20 | plenty | 81:19,20 87:18, | prejudice | 19:24 30:18 |
| plain | 51:3 | 24 93:14 | 14:17 | 31:17,25 38:16 |
| 11:2,3 | pm | positions | prep | 65:16 92:5 |
| plaintiffs | 114:17 | 66:25 86:8 | 19:20 | 101:10 |
| 64:10 | point | positive | preparation | pro |
| plan | 35:15,24,25 | 12:18 60:17 | 55:6 | 14:3,13 62:20 |
| 11:1 69:1 84:3,4 | 41:1 43:12 | 98:23,24 100:22 | prepared | probate |
| 114:5 | 59:20 70:1 | possibly | 55:6 91:13 | 61:6 |
| plane | 72:10 76:20 | 55:22 | 103:4 | problem |
| 32:13 | 78:4,25 81:19 | posted | preparing | 47:15 48:11 |
| planned | 84:6 88:6 99:22 | 19:25 | 103:3 | 71:12,24 72:19 |
| 66:20 82:10 | 105:4,10,13,21 | potentially | presence | 73:21 78:1 79:2, |
| planning | 107:15,16 116:5 | 26:1 50:24 | 113:25 | 18 |
| 67:10 | 117:3 118:22 | 89:20 104:14 | present | problematic |
| plate | pointed | powers | 7:20 27:11 | 32:7 |
| 69:19,20 79:12 | 105:3 | 14:24 58:25 | 28:15 46:21 | problems |
| played | points | practical | preside | 79:17 |
| 109:22 | 101:1 | 73:15 | 41:13 | procedural |
| player | policies | practically | presided | 56:11 |
| 109:20 | 46:23 47:2,10 | 60:8 | 10:16 | Procedurally |
| playing | policy | practice | press | 29:12 |
| 68:22 | 34:25 35:10 | 8:13 54:19 | 118:16 | procedure |
| pleading | 40:20 46:20,21 | 56:10 68:17 | pretend | 41:5 66:23 |
| 20:2 | 47:5 104:23 | 84:3,4,8 85:6,9, | 72:18 | proceed |
| pleas | policy-maker | 14,15 86:2,10 | pretty | 90:22 114:21 |
| 10:15,17 41:13 | 95:9 | 93:15 94:5 | 52:13,15 63:21 | 115:8 |
| 83:10 84:17 | pool | 96:23 112:24 | 64:6,8,14 73:11 | proceeding |
| | 41:17 | practiced | 105:12 | 33:25 112:22 |
| | | 21:18 24:25 | | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p>proceedings 32:25 35:16 57:24</p> <p>process 17:4,22 25:20 30:25 31:2,3,4, 7,18,19 32:8 33:20,23 38:3,4, 15 39:3,25 40:16,25 42:6, 25 43:2 44:4,17 47:21,23 49:5 50:24 51:2 52:12 54:9 57:12,19 58:1 62:6 65:21 68:16 77:9 78:3 79:5 89:14 92:2 101:17 104:22 119:2,4</p> <p>processes 36:17,19,20 53:14 78:6</p> <p>profession 12:1 95:19 96:4</p> <p>professional 9:25 16:3 56:21 65:3 75:15 100:18</p> <p>program 67:12,13</p> <p>prologue 85:20</p> <p>promoting 57:14</p> <p>pronounce 90:24</p> <p>pronounced 91:6</p> <p>pronunciation 91:3</p> | <p>properly 37:21</p> <p>proposed 84:10,20 85:3, 24 104:7,12</p> <p>prosecutors 98:4,7</p> <p>protect 66:19</p> <p>protection 40:21,23 41:2,3 66:14,22 67:1, 11,16 68:15,25 70:22 71:6 72:3, 6,12 73:16</p> <p>proud 55:13,14,24 79:13 94:15,16, 19,20 102:12</p> <p>provide 35:18 53:10</p> <p>provided 30:13 98:22</p> <p>province 59:1</p> <p>proxy 116:16,19,21 117:18,24</p> <p>public 11:18 12:2 34:4 39:24 52:21 57:5,7,17,23,25 58:9 96:15,16 108:10 118:18</p> <p>public's 57:9 63:12</p> <p>publically 97:14</p> <p>public's 97:12</p> <p>punctual 23:17</p> | <p>punish 69:8</p> <p>punishment 74:9</p> <p>purpose 30:10 58:16 103:24</p> <p>purposes 6:22,25 7:3,6 27:17,21,25 30:8 63:6 91:20, 23 118:10</p> <p>pursuant 25:21 30:12 39:5 54:6 89:16 113:11</p> <p>pursued 87:4</p> <p>push 60:14</p> <p>put 33:8 72:11 76:4 91:25 102:24</p> <p>Putnam 40:4</p> <p>puts 71:19</p> <p>putting 20:8 48:21</p> <p>puzzles 88:1</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Q</p> <hr/> <p>qualification 43:6 44:1,4</p> <p>qualifications 7:11 16:7 26:4 28:6 30:12,21 37:4 45:14 65:1 89:24 92:4 100:16 106:18</p> | <p>113:20</p> <p>qualified 12:20 16:1,5 60:23 64:24 65:2 79:15 81:20 100:14,17 114:24 115:1,4, 16 118:7</p> <p>qualify 41:16</p> <p>qualities 12:22</p> <p>question 13:4,16 23:9 24:23 39:25 40:7,9,16 55:11 57:8,16 66:15 69:16 87:10 105:6 112:3</p> <p>questioning 17:10 66:2</p> <p>questionnaire 6:8 27:1</p> <p>questions 7:23 8:1 16:13, 14 17:11,15 25:18 27:3 28:19 39:12 41:17 42:8 50:5 54:8 65:5 66:3,5 83:22 92:21 101:20,21 106:1 112:1,20 113:16 119:6</p> <p>quicker 108:17</p> <p>quickly 85:25</p> <p>quiet 24:7,10</p> <p>quit 74:8,15</p> | <p>quoted 80:14</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <hr/> <p>race 106:19</p> <p>raise 6:1 26:19 29:19 60:24 116:6</p> <p>raised 13:19 17:8 65:25 116:7</p> <p>raising 62:13</p> <p>Ralph 116:1,6 117:1, 20</p> <p>ran 100:6</p> <p>randomly 33:19</p> <p>Rankin 26:15 79:24 80:1 90:12,13, 19 91:3,6,13,17, 25 92:19 93:3,8 101:21 106:1,3 110:7 111:25 112:18 113:6, 18,23 114:3,15, 18 115:3,7,24 116:8,11,13 117:7,14 118:10,16</p> <p>ranks 113:24</p> <p>rare 103:19</p> <p>rate 63:21</p> |
|--|---|---|--|---|

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| re- 40:18 | receive 63:9 115:20 | recording 35:19,20,25 36:6 37:10 | 118:13,19 | 107:18 |
| re-litigate 30:15 | received 7:19 12:15 | recovered 81:15 | Relevance 110:6 | report 13:25 15:3 26:4 89:24 113:19 118:11,12,19 |
| reach 19:23 20:3 59:24 61:12 64:2 | 16:23 28:13 60:15 65:15 98:20 100:21,22 101:10 116:23 | recusing 97:7 | reliant 103:24 | reported 15:25 64:24 100:14 |
| reached 41:1 | receives 115:15 | red 22:11 | relied 104:6 | Reporter 91:7 |
| reaching 103:6 | receiving 117:19 | reelection 69:23 83:21 87:14 | rely 8:19 19:13 | reports 100:22 |
| reaction 77:25 | recent 15:10 22:24 86:13 | references 110:15 | remain 26:3 55:1 56:18, 19,23 89:23 | represent 9:12 |
| read 71:9 87:25 105:11 110:15, 23,24 | recently 56:6 61:14 76:4 83:19 | referring 39:14 | remaining 100:17 116:25 | Representative 5:8,9 30:24 34:24 35:15 38:14,19 46:13, 15 51:5 71:3,5 109:22 110:6 111:25 112:18, 19 113:9 114:13,14,25 117:3,11 |
| reading 24:21 25:9 87:20 110:13 | recognize 53:1 | reflective 78:4,11 | remanded 63:19 64:17 | Representatives 108:5 |
| ready 22:17 23:17 83:1,15 91:14 | recognized 52:16 | reform 31:11,13 | remedial 77:9 109:20 112:4 | representing 45:18 108:4 |
| real 19:24,25 | recognizing 53:12 | refugee 111:5 | remember 18:17 22:7,25 23:23 69:20 73:20 76:7,16 78:12 85:11,22, 23 110:1 115:14 | Republican 31:13 82:10 |
| realization 76:3 | recommend 88:6 106:18 | regard 31:14 37:4 89:6, 9 119:3 | remembered 86:3 | reputation 16:4,10 65:4 100:19 |
| realize 73:10 75:23 77:3 83:21 | recommendatio n 15:3 | regret 39:19,22 40:14 | remind 13:13 25:21 35:7 89:15 98:7 | request 72:2 83:2 84:10, 20 85:3 |
| reason 9:7,10 39:24 40:16,22 59:25 74:15,18,20 81:14 | record 6:19 8:7,9 17:7 23:12 26:3,12 27:6,14 30:4 35:16 36:9 46:11 54:1,6,13, 16 63:5 65:24 84:6 89:23 90:19,20 91:6, 15 92:1 93:10, 13 97:14 113:18 114:18,19 | regular 21:8 | reminded 13:13 98:2 | requested 35:20 |
| reasons 77:24 97:20,21 98:11 | | relate 15:9 | removed 36:16 115:21 | requests 71:12 |
| receipt 30:16 | | relates 73:16 | renowned 32:11 | require 12:22 41:6 |
| | | relationship 12:1 58:19 | repeat 117:1 | |
| | | release 26:4 89:24 113:19 | replaced 62:1 | |
| | | released | replacing | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <p>required 32:19</p> <p>requirements 8:11 54:18 93:14</p> <p>research 8:18,19 13:9 22:15 23:2 41:10 55:22 56:24</p> <p>researching 21:6</p> <p>reservations 32:14</p> <p>residence 8:12 54:19 93:15</p> <p>resident 82:1</p> <p>resolved 79:4</p> <p>respect 45:19 51:20 52:5 55:20 97:2 98:17,18 99:6 100:3</p> <p>respond 13:17 29:14 39:11,13 61:2, 13 62:15 99:11</p> <p>responding 61:17</p> <p>response 13:5 42:22</p> <p>responses 80:14</p> <p>responsibility 80:20</p> <p>responsible 107:13</p> <p>rest 80:4</p> | <p>restrain 10:22</p> <p>result 59:25</p> <p>retired 61:23 80:12 82:22,24 83:6,7</p> <p>retirement 61:22 69:16</p> <p>retiring 61:25 82:3 107:16</p> <p>return 44:5</p> <p>reversal 15:11 63:21 64:4</p> <p>reversed 15:8,12,13 17:25 18:8,16 63:16,20 64:1, 17</p> <p>review 30:11 37:8</p> <p>reviewed 30:18 35:23 37:10</p> <p>reviewing 108:13</p> <p>reviews 58:20</p> <p>revisit 69:4</p> <p>Rhonda 29:21</p> <p>Richland 43:23 44:2 62:4 69:25 72:15,19 78:13,17 81:2,7 82:6,15,19 84:18</p> | <p>righteous 52:19</p> <p>rights 14:15</p> <p>rigors 77:12</p> <p>role 80:17 95:8</p> <p>roller 57:6</p> <p>rolling 107:19</p> <p>Ronnie 80:18</p> <p>room 44:6 48:20 49:4</p> <p>rooted 59:21</p> <p>Rouge 111:6</p> <p>round 106:7</p> <p>routinely 67:4</p> <p>row 64:10 80:3</p> <p>rubber 50:17</p> <p>rule 51:16 67:14 88:15</p> <p>ruled 76:15</p> <p>rules 39:5 54:7</p> <p>ruling 12:7 18:18 51:21</p> <p>rulings 11:23,24 15:10, 12 18:4 19:8</p> | <p>run 16:15 51:7 65:6 73:13 76:12 78:15 101:2</p> <p>running 23:20 69:23 74:4 83:21 87:13,14,16 99:23,24 112:14</p> <p>Rutherford 5:8,9 30:25 34:24 38:19 46:14,15 51:5 67:2 71:2,3,5 109:23 110:6,14 111:25 113:9 114:25 117:3,11</p> <p>Rutherford's 35:15 38:14</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <hr/> <p>Saab 42:11,12</p> <p>Sabb 77:18,19,21 80:18 84:16 115:2</p> <p>sacrifice 119:1</p> <p>safeguard 18:14</p> <p>Safran 17:16,18 23:4,6 49:23,24 50:2 71:3 72:25 73:1, 3 79:7 84:13 90:8 101:22,24 106:5 117:12</p> <p>sake 77:7</p> | <p>sat 13:7,8 78:18 80:4</p> <p>Saturday 74:6</p> <p>scenes 58:5</p> <p>schedule 47:4 67:18</p> <p>scheduled 32:21 34:21 41:13 46:25</p> <p>scheduling 34:16 36:21 61:12 74:16,20</p> <p>school 80:8 111:10</p> <p>schooling 42:3</p> <p>scream 48:23</p> <p>screen 26:17 38:16 76:23</p> <p>screened 5:24</p> <p>screening 14:1 16:20,25 25:20 26:2 54:9 65:12,17 70:4 78:12 89:14,21 101:7,11 108:19 118:21</p> <p>screenings 7:17 28:12 92:5, 11 109:7</p> <p>search 7:16 28:10 92:9</p> <p>seat 5:24 16:15 26:19 29:10 65:6 101:2</p> |
|---|--|--|---|--|

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| 103:9 106:23 115:13 seconded 5:9 115:3 Section 16:18 65:10 secure 67:13 Security 21:17 seek 21:13 35:20 sees 83:3 segue 96:14 segues 57:15 selected 45:10 selection 5:3 7:10 28:5 31:8 35:17 92:2 self-inflicted 68:13 69:10 Senate 108:3 114:6,9 118:17 Senator 5:2,9,12,15,19, 21,23 6:7,14,17 7:9 8:3,23 9:1,3, 6 17:14 23:6 24:18 25:5,9,12 26:8,13,15,25 27:10,13 28:3 29:2,6,9,12,16, 19,24 30:6 35:2, 4,7,22 36:10,12, 23,25 37:3,7 38:21,24 39:3,9 42:11,12 44:22 | 46:13 49:23 54:4 66:4 68:2 71:2 72:25 77:18,19,21 79:24 80:1,18 84:16 89:12 90:3,5,10,12,13, 16 91:3,6,13,17, 25 92:19 93:3,8 101:21 106:1,3 110:7 111:25 112:18 113:6, 18,23 114:3,15, 18 115:2,3,7,24 116:8,11,13,16, 19,21 117:7,14, 18,24 118:10,16 Senators 108:5 Seneca 111:4,5,8 senior 104:18 sense 12:19 20:21 50:10 80:16 95:25 106:24 111:16 sentence 63:2 separate 44:10,11 Separation 58:25 serve 8:16,18 28:23, 25 38:1 54:22, 25 55:3 61:6 88:2 93:16 94:3, 20 100:12 102:17 107:11, 12,14 112:24 | served 14:7,22 108:8 serves 61:3 service 26:9 42:17 43:12 90:5 113:5 serving 87:8 93:20 session 5:6,7,13,14,16 43:11 46:16 90:9,11,17,18, 20 114:4,5,12, 16,17,20 sessions 10:17 41:15,19 62:10,25 94:14 set 37:25 59:10 70:1 71:13 87:7, 18 sets 59:16,18 99:4 setting 70:9 settle 85:13 settled 20:3 seven-hundred 106:8 seventh 111:7 share 24:20 Shawn 29:4 sheet 117:5 | shepherd 104:21 she's 104:20,21 shifting 18:22 shocked 23:14 shoes 87:2 short 50:7 64:14 99:10,14 show 11:20 117:14 showing 88:22 98:18 siblings 88:22 side 95:23 104:13 105:21 side's 71:7,20 sides 20:25 104:13 sign 24:6 67:22 71:11 84:12,25 86:16 signals 98:13 signed 70:19 84:22 significance 34:1 significant 33:22 88:4 signify 5:10 90:14 signing | 24:10 84:9 similar 43:20 similarly 53:3 106:4 simple 52:4 simply 47:17 59:13 77:1 single 117:5 sir 5:19 6:2,11,16 8:5,25 9:3,6,19 10:6 15:8,24 16:12 18:9 23:5 26:6,7 29:6,11, 15 35:3,14 39:13 43:14 49:23 50:1 54:3, 10 65:18,23 70:16,18,23 71:2 75:17 77:15,17 79:23 85:8 86:6,9 89:11 91:16 92:18 102:12 108:7 113:17,22 sit 13:12 37:19 52:12 76:8 79:18 sits 13:23 sitting 50:2 74:4 76:14 80:3 103:9 situation 37:19,20 48:12, 22 53:23 69:15 73:19 76:10 |
|---|---|---|--|--|

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| situations 73:22 103:8 | solicitors 71:10 | speaks 35:4 111:16 | standard 99:4 | statutory 8:11 41:16 |
| size 11:10 | Solicitor's 94:10,15 | specific 13:18 57:20 | standards 96:5,6,17 | 54:17 |
| skill 87:6,18 | solution 74:14 | spectrum 10:18 | standpoint 36:19 105:8 | stay 53:4 85:2 |
| skills 87:23 | somebody's 86:10 | speeches 80:5 | start 20:6,7,12 25:16, 17 37:11 112:22 | 108:21 |
| SLED 13:25 | someone's 41:22 | speed 62:2 | started 11:11 51:12 | stays 64:11 |
| slide 75:19 | son 80:13 111:14 | spend 19:5,11,19 20:14 22:14 | starts 19:21,22 | stellar 112:8 |
| slight 84:17 | son's 80:8 | spirit 25:23 89:18 113:13 | state 7:15 9:12 11:13 26:10 28:10,25 55:3 64:12 68:20 69:5,9 83:9 89:19 90:5 92:9 94:13 98:15,24 106:13,24 107:4,6,8,14 108:4,5 112:23 | step 17:21 75:9 76:6 95:13 97:10 |
| slightly 43:22 | sort 33:3,14,16 43:5 57:6 58:23 59:7, 10 60:6 66:20 87:22 | spitful 106:12 | spoken 40:13 41:10 80:19 | steps 11:17 57:16 96:14 |
| slow 84:5 | sought 16:23 41:2 65:15 101:9 | spot 72:18 89:1 | stock 22:18 | stick 64:16 |
| slowing 69:18 86:23 | sound 56:25 111:1,2 | spring 118:21 | Stirling 63:17,23 | stone 77:4 |
| small 43:24 82:17 99:19 | South 12:23 13:2 26:10 63:25 90:6 99:1,3 | stability 16:8 65:1 100:16 | stated 100:20 | stood 111:19,21 |
| smaller 44:6,9,20 45:15 62:5 71:18 | Spartanburg 14:23 107:17,20 112:12 | staccato 44:17 | statement 6:9 7:4,22 27:1 28:1,17 48:9 91:14,24 92:20 111:23 | stopping 86:22 |
| smart 60:19,23 | spawn 60:7 | staff 92:25 100:4 112:11 | states 32:15 98:15 | stops 18:22,23 |
| smile 62:24 63:1,2 | speak 6:5 22:19 26:23 29:22 38:17 40:17 66:18 91:11 106:24 | staffing 61:17 | statewide 108:6 | stories 109:5 |
| smiling 113:25 | speaking 24:12 60:8 109:11 | stale 76:15 | stating 47:17 | story 111:16 |
| Social 21:17 | | stamp 50:17 | statistics 102:19 | straightened 70:15 |
| sole 47:8 | | stand 49:17 88:12 | statute 15:15 67:15 | strange 104:12 |
| solicitor 47:7 71:15 | | | | strangely 104:19 |
| Solicitor's 34:4 47:6 | | | | strengthen |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| 94:4 | subtleties 76:16 | Supreme 5:24 8:17,22 10:3,7,8 11:10 12:21 13:2,7 15:21 26:18 32:3 33:15 37:15 38:5,7 54:23 56:2,8 59:6,11 60:21, 22 61:1 64:1,11, 16 67:12 69:24 82:21 87:8,17 88:4 93:17,24, 25 94:2 96:10 99:3,19 100:10 102:5 103:12 106:21 115:12 | Switching 50:12 | talks 55:4 |
| stressed 73:24 75:12 | succeed 87:3 | | sworn 6:4,8,19 7:4 26:22 27:1 28:1 29:21 91:10,14, 24 | Talley 5:2,9,12,15,19, 21,23 6:7,14,17 7:9 8:3,23 9:1,3, 6 17:14 21:19 23:6 24:18 25:5, 9,12 26:8,13,15, 25 27:10,13 28:3 29:2,6,9, 12,16,19,24 30:6 35:2,4,7,22 36:10,12,23,25 37:3,7 38:21,24 39:3,9 42:11 44:22 46:13 49:23 54:4 66:4 68:2 71:2 72:25 77:18 79:24 89:12 90:3,5,10, 13,16 116:16, 19,21 117:18,24 |
| stretch 10:23 | successful 48:13 85:15 106:20 | | system 11:5,7,18,19 36:22 46:1 48:2, 5 53:1,2,12 57:2 63:14 70:10 74:22,25 77:11 94:4,5,19,22 95:17,24 96:13, 16 108:10 | |
| Strom 5:6 68:2,3,5 71:1 72:13,20 76:12 84:13 | successor 81:9 | | systems 94:13 | |
| strongly 69:4,9 70:14 98:11 | succinctly 105:6 | Surely 85:25 | <hr/> T <hr/> | |
| struggle 88:16 108:22 | sudden 70:6 | surprise 42:18,19 43:14, 19 | table 56:14 | |
| student 109:21 111:10, 12,21 | sued 14:11,23 | surprised 24:22 62:16 | takes 82:16 | task 102:4 |
| study 7:14,17 28:8,12 55:22 88:1 92:10 109:17 | suffering 113:8 | surprises 63:4 | taking 40:23 73:23 86:22 | technology 95:22,25 96:8 |
| studying 87:20 105:17 | sufficiency 13:4 | surprisingly 108:16 | talented 98:25 | telling 46:6 |
| stuff 71:11 76:15 | suggest 72:22 83:22 | survey 7:13 12:17 28:8 60:17 89:3 92:7 106:10 111:18 | talk 11:9 36:12 43:8, 9 46:18 69:5 | temperament 13:17 16:4 24:24 25:13 60:23 62:14 65:4 68:21,23 88:25 100:20 |
| style 105:7 109:10 | suggestions 57:20 77:23 | surveys 12:16 60:16 98:21 | talked 9:8 21:24 46:22, 25 74:3 98:4 | ten 46:22 69:23 |
| subjected 31:2 | suggests 106:22 | survival 15:15 | talking 17:24 20:22 36:18,20,21 42:13 68:21 74:9 110:3,14, 17 | tendency 105:4 |
| submit 27:6 104:7 | suing 82:8 | survive 15:23 | | term 109:24 |
| submitted 6:9 22:23 27:2,8 33:6 37:4,9 54:5 | suitability 13:16 | switch 20:16 | | |
| submitting 16:14,22 65:6, 14 101:1,9 | summary 61:4 86:20 100:20 | | | |
| subsequently 33:12 | superbly 12:20 | | | |
| subtle 76:20 | supplement 30:20 | | | |
| | support 94:5 | | | |
| | supposed 67:8 71:8 75:2 103:22 117:4 | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| terms 18:4,11 22:3 72:20 74:19 77:14 79:10 83:6,8,9,18 84:2,17 85:13 88:13,19 89:2 105:5 114:23 118:12,24 | 86:25 97:8 100:9 102:6 103:17 | ticks 73:20 | 64:6,8,14,16 | topic 38:22 |
| terrific 103:10 | things 11:2,3 13:15 21:17 33:18 36:8,9 38:10 40:21 42:23 46:24 47:4,25 48:2,4 57:8,13, 24 58:7 61:19 69:17,22,25 70:8,11 72:3 73:10,13,14 75:19,22 76:7, 21 77:11 86:17, 20,23 88:12 95:22 102:11,24 103:11 | tie 115:18 | timeliness 61:11,16 84:1 | totally 109:12 |
| testifies 6:6 26:24 29:23 91:12 | thinking 34:7 60:13 69:4 | tied 113:1 | timely 32:17 84:11,12, 21 | touched 88:13 99:11 110:24,25 |
| testify 7:21 28:16 92:15 | thirty 98:22 | tight 64:6,8 | times 22:24 23:22 24:24 36:7 40:21 42:22 50:9,19 52:6 53:9 63:8 70:6 72:5 80:22 103:8 109:20 112:16 | touches 108:9 |
| testimony 6:19 8:8 54:14 93:11 | thought 21:10 22:20 43:7,16 44:16 46:17 55:12 60:6 64:15,19 75:16 93:23 98:8 | time 10:5 11:21,23 13:8 14:9 19:5, 11,19 20:14 21:19 22:14,15, 21 24:19 26:5 28:4,16,22 29:13 30:5,19 31:1 32:18 34:6 37:25 38:1 41:11 45:6 50:13 51:9 52:16,25 53:22 55:3 57:6,23 62:1,9 67:5 70:5,11 71:23 73:12,25 74:4 75:9,24 78:13 81:13 83:5 84:14 86:2,22 89:25 90:9 93:18 94:12 97:8,9 98:1 99:10,15,22 101:20 102:2,6 103:18 104:14, 16 109:4 111:7, 11 113:10 118:25 | timing 99:18 102:10 | touchpoint 118:23 |
| text 63:10 | thoughtful 60:19 | til 53:5 | tiny 102:13 | tower-like 108:15 |
| thankful 28:20,21,24 | thoughts 54:2 | time 10:5 11:21,23 13:8 14:9 19:5, 11,19 20:14 21:19 22:14,15, 21 24:19 26:5 28:4,16,22 29:13 30:5,19 31:1 32:18 34:6 37:25 38:1 41:11 45:6 50:13 51:9 52:16,25 53:22 55:3 57:6,23 62:1,9 67:5 70:5,11 71:23 73:12,25 74:4 75:9,24 78:13 81:13 83:5 84:14 86:2,22 89:25 90:9 93:18 94:12 97:8,9 98:1 99:10,15,22 101:20 102:2,6 103:18 104:14, 16 109:4 111:7, 11 113:10 118:25 | track 117:5 | town 31:22 32:1,10 34:10,12 67:9 |
| that'll 16:13 | threw 71:14 | timelier 86:24 | title 48:20 | trade 22:18 |
| that's 103:22 110:12 | thrilled 55:16 97:4 | timeline | titled 14:18 | trained 105:9 |
| there's 97:22 | throw 68:17 77:4 | | today 17:10 35:10 66:2 76:1 77:14 80:2 113:25 114:9 | training 62:2,9 |
| they're 99:13 100:5 103:24 106:13 | tickets 32:13 | | today's 30:10,18 63:5 | traits 12:22 |
| thing 8:21 11:20 21:23 32:2 34:13,15 44:1 48:15 50:3,18 51:4 66:20 69:12 73:8 74:19 75:18 76:16 82:6 | | | token 52:20 53:5 | transcending 88:25 |
| | | | told 13:21 15:6,19 51:13 107:10 | transcript 86:5 |
| | | | tolerance 114:7 | transferred 43:10 |
| | | | ton 76:4 | transition 103:23 108:12 |
| | | | top 48:23 76:9 85:3 | translates 76:23 |
| | | | | transparency 57:13,19,23 58:10 96:18 |
| | | | | travel 31:22 32:10 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 66:20 82:22 | 29:22,23 50:18 | unconscionable | 23 | vice-president |
| traveled | 73:15 85:23 | 33:16 | | 111:11 |
| 32:24 | 91:11,12 108:2 | undermines | <hr/> V <hr/> | victims |
| treat | truthfully | 57:25 63:12 | | 99:5 |
| 75:14 | 99:19 | understand | vacation | video |
| treated | turn | 18:3 21:1 43:1 | 40:21 67:17 | 40:2 47:15 |
| 23:18 | 7:23 10:25 | 51:25 52:7,11, | 68:15 69:1 | videos |
| treating | 28:18 39:12 | 21 73:4,16 | vacations | 49:9 |
| 55:19 | turnover | 87:10 90:1 | 40:23 69:2 | view |
| treats | 69:16 | 92:23 95:8,9 | varied | 25:24 63:6 |
| 99:5 | turns | 97:3,5 103:14 | 94:1 | 68:12,23 69:10 |
| tremendous | 25:9 | 110:4 111:6 | vary | 77:24 78:17 |
| 81:12 102:9 | TV | understanding | 19:12 | vigilant |
| 103:7 | 45:22 | 50:20 97:6 | vast | 18:4 |
| trenches | Twelve | unethical | 78:9 | vindicated |
| 56:7 | 13:2 | 53:25 | Verdin | 51:18 |
| trial | Twenty | unfair | 90:23,25 91:5, | Vinson |
| 19:20,21,22 | 10:11 | 72:1,11 | 10,16,18,21,24 | 102:17 |
| 20:6 21:14 41:3 | twenty-seven | unified | 92:18,23 93:13, | violation |
| 43:6 44:12 56:7 | 98:21 | 98:1 | 16 94:6 99:1,2,4 | 18:19 113:14 |
| 60:4,10,13,14 | twist | unilateral | 100:14 112:5, | violations |
| 61:8 62:21 64:9 | 10:25 | 31:18,19 | 10,15 113:4,17, | 14:14 25:25 |
| 67:8 71:14 75:2 | two-and-a-half-week-old | unique | 22 114:1 116:4, | 89:19 |
| 83:15 96:2 | 9:21 | 87:6 118:21 | 20,24 118:9 | vision |
| 97:24 98:7 | typically | uniquely | verification | 11:4 57:1 95:16 |
| 105:14,19 | 48:19 59:17 | 83:4 87:17 | 7:15 28:9 92:8 | voice |
| 108:24,25 | 85:5 | unlike | verify | 13:19 37:14 |
| 109:1,2 | <hr/> U <hr/> | 108:3 | 49:14 | voir |
| trials | | unmet | versed | 33:21,22 44:1, |
| 41:13,18 83:12 | | 89:9 | 56:5 | 11 |
| trip | | unmutes | versus | volume |
| 32:16 66:20 | U.S. | 40:7 | 43:23 44:2 | 61:18 62:4,6 |
| Truman | 15:1 | unwillingness | 63:23 | 82:8 |
| 18:23 | Uh-huh | 68:22 | vet | voluminous |
| Trump | 18:2 19:16 35:6 | update | 80:17 | 67:16 |
| 109:13 110:1,3 | 78:2 | 27:5 | vetted | vote |
| trust | ultimate | upholds | 80:23 | 115:8,10,18 |
| 11:18,19 57:18 | 64:2 | 97:12 | vetting | 116:16,19,21,25 |
| 58:4 96:16 97:5, | ultimately | Upstate | 92:2 | 117:5,18,24 |
| 12 | 104:24 | 15:25 100:13 | viable | voted |
| truth | unavoidably | 107:2,11,20,22, | 73:13 | 117:6 |
| 6:5,6 26:23,24 | 112:25 | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| votes 5:16 90:21 114:20 115:15, 16,20 117:12 | wavering 76:22 | 64:5 91:18 | worked 19:3 74:17 81:11 94:11 103:23 112:7,16 | 78:25 99:8 |
| <hr/> W <hr/> | ways 28:22 51:4 53:1 102:15 113:5 | what's 91:3 105:5 112:13 | workers' 21:16 | wrong 18:18 33:13 48:10 53:19 |
| wait 11:24 52:2 84:22 117:14 | wealth 10:18 12:19 | wheelhouse 87:22 | working 19:5 21:7 70:12, 20 93:1 96:12 | wrote 22:24 89:3 98:3 110:9 |
| waiting 11:21,22 34:11 81:6 84:24 | Webex 32:22,23 35:16, 19,20 37:10 39:15 71:13 76:17 83:11 85:16 | wife 21:14 111:13 | works 84:4 96:1 | <hr/> Y <hr/> |
| walk 46:10 | Wednesday 19:23 | Williams 100:3 102:19 | world 80:6,17 83:3 86:3 88:19 | y'all 38:16 119:2,5 |
| Walter 29:4 | week 9:9 15:20 19:23, 24 24:21 41:11, 12 44:9 45:10 84:19 | Williamsburg 43:23,24 | worried 45:9 | ya'll 107:3 |
| wanted 46:10 67:2 104:9,10 112:21 | weeks 42:17 67:10 78:14 | win 52:23 | worry 19:11 | year 10:11 61:15,21 72:17 83:5,18 93:21 98:3 99:15,16,17,25 101:25 |
| wanting 50:8 | weigh 106:17 | wise 22:14 | worst 52:23 91:3 109:16,19 | years 8:12 10:12 11:11 19:3 21:15 22:7 25:1 28:24 42:16 46:22 51:13 54:19 69:23 85:7 93:15 104:20 108:19, 20 112:7 |
| war 109:5 | weighed 106:7 | witnesses 7:20 92:15 | would've 49:2 63:11 | yesterday 70:19 75:13 81:3 84:22 |
| Ward 39:17 40:5 | weighing 106:12 | witnessing 88:16 | wouldn't 94:17 96:4 | yesterday's 81:1 |
| Warden 14:24 | weight 26:1 89:21 | wonderful 111:22 | write 12:3,6 22:22 59:4,13 74:22 97:16,18 98:2, 12,17 110:20 | young 25:5 110:8 |
| warmly 43:20 | welcoming 46:5 | wood 74:11 | writes 88:12 | younger 69:3 |
| warrant 113:15 | We'll 114:16 | word 47:24 51:9 75:12,19 79:9 109:9 | writing 12:9,12 21:6 22:15 23:2 60:3 75:24 104:15 105:11 109:10 | youngest 111:14 |
| warrants 85:24 | we're 104:24 105:19 110:3,14,16 | words 33:11 48:18 49:16 51:11 109:18 | written 10:25 13:3 60:24 75:20 | |
| wasn't 98:5 113:1 | whatsoever 14:11 40:6 48:9 | work 12:24 13:12 23:10,17 24:10 45:7 61:9,22 62:4,6,12 69:2 70:12 72:22 74:1,15 79:6 83:24 94:16,19 114:6,8 118:21 | | |
| waste 104:13 | | | | |
| watch 80:7,13 | | | | |
| watching 31:16 40:4 | | | | |

youth

24:12

you'd

92:19

you're

92:24 102:4,6

103:4,21,22

104:13 105:10

106:20 107:22

108:9 113:2

you've

91:4 92:23

102:1,5 112:17

y'all

110:19 114:15