



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

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

1. Name: Mr.
Mrs. Maite D. Murphy
Ms.

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

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.) Yes. I currently hold the seat for which I am
seeking reelection. Circuit Court, At-Large Seat #15.

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Dorchester

Business Address: 5200 E. Jim Bilton Blvd., St. George, SC 29477

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): (843)832-0391
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1969
Place of Birth: Denver, Colorado
Social Security Number: [Redacted]
3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes.
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes.
4. SCDL# or SCHED#: [Redacted]
Voter Registration Number: [Redacted]
5. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank
attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or
release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge. I have not served
in the military.
6. Family Status:

- (a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated.
- (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation.
- (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s).
- (d) If you have ever been divorced or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds.
- (e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are NOT full-time students, also include the occupation and employer of each child.

Family Status: Married on August 6, 1994 to Christopher J. Murphy.
Never divorced, two children.

[Redacted]

- 7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure. I attended Texas State University (Formerly named Southwest Texas State University). I began college there in the fall of 1987 and graduated with a B.A. degree in December of 1991. I attended law school at Mississippi College School of Law from the fall of 1992 until I obtained my J.D. degree in May of 1995.
- 8. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held. I was a member of the Environmental Law Association in Law School from 1992 through 1995. During law school I also completed an internship with the Public Defender's Office.
- 9. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state. I was admitted to practice law in 1995 in South Carolina. South Carolina is the only state where I have practiced law and taken the bar exam. I took the bar exam one time.
- 10. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts. I began practicing law in Columbia as a partner with the law firm of Holler, Dennis, Corbett & Garner. I began working there in January of 1996 and my practice was a general practice. I handled all types of cases in Common Pleas, General Sessions, Family Court, Magistrate Court and Municipal Court. As a partner in that firm, I was responsible for managing trust and firm accounts. My husband and I then moved from Richland County

to Dorchester County in March of 1998 and I was employed as an associate for Richard Wern in North Charleston where I handled civil litigation matters in State and Federal Court until I obtained a position at the First Circuit Solicitor's Office in October of 1998.

During my tenure at the Solicitor's Office I rose to the rank of Chief Deputy Solicitor for the First Judicial Circuit. I was second in command to the Solicitor for the entire circuit which is comprised of Calhoun, Dorchester and Orangeburg Counties. I was hired to operate under a grant dedicated to prosecuting crimes of violence against women. I was in charge of prosecuting all violent crimes against women and children. I successfully tried cases of murder, arson, armed robbery, burglary, criminal sexual conduct (all degrees), lewd act upon a child, unlawful conduct towards a child, felony child abuse, sexual exploitation of minors, all levels of assaults, drug and alcohol offenses and criminal domestic violence. I also assisted Solicitor Walter Bailey with the trials of four capital murder cases.

I left the Solicitor's Office in 2005 to join the practice of Quattlebaum & Murphy, L.L.P. as a partner. My husband and I then formed our own law firm in January of 2009 which was the Murphy Law Firm, L.L.C. Both firms were general practice firms and during my time there I specialized in criminal and civil litigation matters in all courts and also handled domestic litigation. As a partner in both firms, I was responsible for the administration and reconciliation of financial accounts, trust accounts and personnel matters.

I was confirmed by the Senate as a Magistrate Court Judge for Dorchester County on April 30, 2009. Chief Justice Jean H. Toal appointed me as Associate Chief Magistrate for Dorchester County on June 17, 2009. I served in that capacity until I was appointed as Chief Magistrate by Chief Justice Toal on July 1, 2010. I served as Chief Magistrate part-time and continued my general practice until I was appointed a Master-in-Equity for Dorchester County in May of 2011.

I began my term as Master-in-Equity on June 1, 2011. As Master-in-Equity is heard cases referred by the Circuit Court. I presided over matters that dealt with real property disputes, business cases, injunctions, default cases with unliquidated damages and supplementary proceedings. The real property cases included mortgage foreclosures, quiet title actions, partitions, boundary disputes and mechanic's liens. On December 22, 2011 Chief Justice Toal appointed me as a Special Circuit Court Judge which allowed me the ability to try non-jury matters in Common Pleas Court. As Master-in-Equity I was responsible for the administration of the office, all personnel matters and financial accounting requirements of the office.

I was elected to my current position on the Circuit Court in January of 2013. My duties as a Circuit Court judge include presiding over terms of Common Pleas Court and General Sessions Court. I dispose of motions, pretrial proceedings and perform administrative duties. I hear appeals from Magistrate, Municipal and Probate Courts and approve or disapprove settlements of minor's interests and all other people with an incapacity, and wrongful death and survivor action settlements. I was appointed to the Business Court in August of 2014 and I continue to serve in that capacity. As a Business Court Judge I preside over complex matters that include the following: South Carolina Business Corporation Act;

South Carolina Uniform Securities Act; South Carolina Uniform Commercial Code; and, cases involving Trade and Commerce to include Trade Secrets Act, Trusts, Monopolies and Restraints of Trade and Trademarks or other business matters as determined by the Chief Justice. I have served as Chief Administrative Judge for Common Pleas and for General Sessions Court. I also served on a state-wide docketing committee led by Justice James to address the backlog of cases in General Sessions Courts due to the pandemic. I also serve on the Commission of Judicial Conduct since 2023. I did serve as an “Acting Associate Justice” to the South Carolina Supreme Court in April of 2018.

Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 11–17. If you are a full-time judge seeking a judgeship different than your current position, Questions 11-17 should be answered based on your experience prior to serving on the bench.

11. Please answer the following:
 - (a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court judge. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Family Court judge within the past five years.
 - (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, and whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Circuit Court judge within the past five years.

- (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity or a Circuit Court judge within the past five years.
 - (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law or Circuit Court within the past five years.
12. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) federal:
 - (b) state:
13. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) civil:
 - (b) criminal:
 - (c) domestic:
 - (d) other:
14. During the past five years
- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial?
 - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict?
 - (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? (Resolved may include settlement, plea, by Judge's order during a motion hearing, etc.
 - (d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements?

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

For sitting judges seeking a judgeship different than your current position, During the five years prior to your election to the bench, what percentage of your practice was in trial court, including matters that settled prior to trial?

15. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court, or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

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

16. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

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

17. List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

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

18. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.

I served as Chief Magistrate for Dorchester County. I was appointed as a Magistrate by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. My appointment was confirmed on April 30, 2009. As a Magistrate Court Judge I had jurisdiction to hear civil actions within the County where the amount in controversy did not exceed \$7,500. I had limited jurisdiction of mechanics' liens, agricultural liens, repair or storage liens and animal owner's liens. My Magistrate jurisdiction also included handling of criminal and traffic offenses which are subject to a fine or forfeiture not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisonment not to exceed thirty days or both. I also heard cases transferred from General Sessions Court where the penalty did not exceed one year of imprisonment or a fine of \$5,000 or both. These cases were transferred to the Magistrate's Court upon petition from the Solicitor and with the consent of the defendant.

I served as the Dorchester County Master-in-Equity and my term of service began on June 1, 2011. I was appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the General Assembly on May 19, 2011. As Master-in-Equity I heard cases referred to me by the Circuit Court. I presided over matters that dealt with real property disputes, business cases, injunctions, default cases with unliquidated damages, and quiet title actions, partitions, boundary disputes and mechanic's liens. I conducted public judicial auctions of real property pursuant to mortgage foreclosure actions. I further executed and delivered Master's Deeds conveying title to real property to successful bidders at the public auctions.

If appropriate, I also executed and delivered Master's Deeds to parties to suits that established their legal interest in real property. This jurisdiction was limited to Dorchester County. During my tenure as Master-in-Equity I was also appointed by the Chief Justice on December 22, 2011 to serve as a Special Circuit Court Judge. As a Special Circuit Court Judge I was able to try non-jury matters in Common Pleas and General Sessions Court. I also disposed of motions and pretrial proceedings.

I was elected to my current position of Circuit Court, At-Large seat #15 on January 30, 2013 by the South Carolina General Assembly. As a Circuit Court Judge I preside over cases in Common Pleas and General Sessions Court. I have served as Chief Administrative Judge of both Common Pleas and General Sessions Court and also serve as a Business Court Judge handling complex business litigation matters. I was appointed to the Business Court by the Chief Justice on August 8, 2014. As a Circuit Court Judge I dispose of motions, pretrial proceedings, perform administrative duties necessary to prepare cases for trial and other dispositions, including the sounding of the trial roster and docket. I hear appeals from Magistrate, Municipal and Probate Courts and approve or disapprove settlement of minor's interest and all other people with an incapacity, and wrongful death and survivor action settlements. In General Sessions Court I accept Grand Jury returns, preside over guilty pleas, bond hearings, probation revocations and jury trials and also issue search warrants.

19. If the answer to question 18 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also, list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.
- (a) Shannon Shaw v. Amazon.com Inc.; Amazon Logistics, Inc.; MJV Logistics, LLC and Kevin Anthony Blekicki 2021-CP-18-02173. This was a personal injury trial where agency was the central issue at trial and the extent of control exerted by Amazon over the logistics company and the driver of an Amazon delivery vehicle. Plaintiffs were able to establish actual control and the right and authority to control the work of MJV Logistics and the driver Blekicki. Another important issue in this trial was the untimely disclosure of proposed expert witnesses which were excluded by the Court. The jury in this case deliberated for just under four hours and returned a verdict for \$44.6 million Dollars. Punitive damages against Amazon were \$30 million Dollars. Defense counsel for Amazon failed to make timely post trial motions and I ruled that the failure to submit the post-trial motions in compliance with Rules precluded them from relief for later filed motions for new trial absolute, new trial nisi remittitur, and new trial pursuant to the Thirteenth Juror Doctrine. The Order denying this relief was appealed, however the parties were able to reach a settlement of all issues prior to the matter being heard by the Court of Appeals.
 - (b) Shem Creek v. Development Group, LLC v. The Town of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, 2017-CP-10-05493. This was a Business Court case where the Plaintiff initiated an action against the Town of Mount Pleasant for the breach of a parking license agreement to build a parking garage in Shem Creek. This was a significant order in that it dealt with complex issues as to discretionary acts of government, duty of good faith, breach of contract, and substantial performance. This case was a bench trial and I found that the town breached the parking license agreement by a

preponderance of the evidence, and concluded that the damages in the amount of \$2,604,316 were proven.

- (c) The State v. Shannon Scott Appellate Case No. 2017-001607. This Order was significant in that it granted immunity from prosecution to the defendant. This was a unique circumstance in that the victim that was shot and killed by the defendant was not the person which attacked the defendant and his family, but he was in a car at the incident location. The Supreme Court ruled that there was evidence in the record to support Scott's use of deadly force under the doctrine of self-defense. He was entitled to immunity pursuant to Subsection 16-11-450(A) of the Protection of Persons and Property Act.
- (d) CPM Federal Credit Union v. George W. Lockwood and Sarah Thackson, 2014-CP-10-7597. This was an Order which addressed the Plaintiff's Rule 59(e) Motion to Reconsider, Defendant's Second Motion for Summary Judgment and Defendant's Motion for Discovery Sanctions. This matter was before me in the Business Court and dealt with numerous claims which included breach of fiduciary duties by former members of the board of directors of the credit union as well as conduct of the officers of the corporation. The most significant portion of this order dealt with sanctions issued by the court pursuant to the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 37. The plaintiff engaged in a pattern of discovery abuses. The plaintiff failed to disclose evidence in a timely manner during the discovery process and at one point in the litigation dumped hundreds of thousands of pages of documents on the defendants days prior to trial causing a significant delay in the litigation. I felt as this order was important in that it demonstrated that discovery abuses are not to be tolerated as the parties are charged with participating in discovery as an enhancement to the truth-seeking process to properly prepare for trial and promote a timely determination of the matters at hand.
- (e) Erica Butts v. State of South Carolina, 2014-CP-10-2518. This was an Order of Dismissal in a post-conviction relief matter filed by Erica Butts. Ms. Butts had been sentenced to life in prison subsequent to an Alford plea to homicide by child abuse in Charleston County Court of General Sessions on November 3, 2011. Ms. Butts asserted that her counsel was ineffective for failing to prepare an adequate defense based on battered spouse syndrome. The defendant claimed that her co-defendant, Shanita Cunningham, a person she had a romantic relationship with was physically abusive, controlling and aggressive toward her. Both were charged with the homicide by child abuse after a toddler in their care was brutally beaten to death over a period of time. I found that the defendant was not entitled to relief as her counsel presented testimony of the co-defendants alleged abuse as a mitigating factor in sentencing. This was done by trial counsel even though the defendant failed to cooperate in counsel's investigation of her alleged abuse. Further, battered spouse syndrome was not applicable in that the toddler victim who was killed was a third party, and was not the abuser, as contemplated by the syndrome. The alleged abuse of the defendant by the co-defendant could not justify the murder of the child. The defendant did not passively observe the victim's abuse, but actively participated

in it and there was no justification or excuse for her actions in the killing of an innocent child.

20. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice. I was admitted to practice law in South Carolina on November 13, 1995 and I was admitted to practice in the United States District Court, District of South Carolina on April 19, 1996.
21. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
 - (a) I taught business law courses at Midlands Technical College in Columbia in 1996 and 1997.
 - (b) I taught the Ethical Issues portion of the Children's Law Center CLS in Orangeburg entitled Training for Attorney Appointed in Abuse and Neglect Cases on April 30, 2010.
 - (c) I taught Courtroom Procedure Training at the Dorchester County Sheriff's Department. January – May, 2010.
 - (d) I taught Courtroom Case Presentation to the South Carolina Litter Control Association on February 24, 2011.
 - (e) I have been a presenter during the Orientation School for Magistrates and Municipal Judges on two occasions.
 - (f) I served on a teaching panel for the National Business Institute CLE that was titled "What Civil Court Judges Want You to Know" on 05/4/14.
 - (g) On several occasions through the years I spoke at my children's school on the topic of our court system and the Judiciary.
 - (f) I spoke at The Citadel on Leadership Day in 2018 to cadets focused on pursuing legal careers on the importance of mentorship and how leaders in our field helped shape my own career.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years. See attached.
23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. Not applicable.
24. Please furnish as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary author, to include a description of the other authors and their contributions. The writing samples are for the Commission's use only and will not be published. (If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable.)
25. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization; such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super

Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any. I was not subscribed to be listed in any of the stated organizations during my time in private practice.

26. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
 - (a) South Carolina Bar Association-1995 to present.
 - (b) Richland County Bar Association-1995-1998.
 - (c) South Carolina Women's Bar Association 1995 to present.
 - (d) Dorchester County Bar Association- 1998 to present. Served as President 2006-2010; Vice-President 2005; Treasurer 2003-2004.
 - (e) South Carolina Judicial Invitational- 2013 to present. I serve as Vice President & Membership Chair.
27. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? If so, give details, including dates. No.
28. For sitting or former judges, list all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. The only employment I have had while serving as a judge was when I served as Dorchester County Magistrate on a part-time basis and was still employed as a partner in Murphy Law Firm, LLC.
29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates. I was a candidate for Circuit Court Judge of the First Judicial Circuit in 2008. I was found qualified to serve, but I was not nominated to the office. I was a candidate for the Circuit Court Judge, At-Large seat #8 position in 2009. I was found qualified to serve and nominated by the Judicial Merit Selection Commission but was not elected to the position by the General Assembly. I was a candidate for Circuit Court Judge, At-Large Seat # 9 position in 2010. I was found qualified to serve, but was not nominated to be elected. I submitted an application for the Supreme Court, seat 4 in 2022, but withdrew my candidacy prior to screening.
30. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer. I have not been engaged in any other occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law.
31. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service. No.

32. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a “lobbyist,” as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a “lobbyist’s principal,” as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed. No.
33. Provide, **as a separate attachment**, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
 - (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

A complete, current financial net worth statement has been provided to the Commission.

(A net worth statement form is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.)

NOTE: The Commission may require written confirmation that financial obligations have been satisfied or that the parties have agreed upon a payment schedule.

34. (a) Have you filed state and federal income tax returns for the last 5 years? If no, please provide details. Yes.
- (b) Have you or any business with which you are associated been delinquent in any local, state, or federal taxes? If yes, please provide details. No.
- (c) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? If yes, please provide details. Yes. A lien was filed against me and my husband in 2009. This was the result of fraud by an employee of a property management company which had misappropriated funds. Once the lien was discovered to have been filed, we immediately contacted the company’s attorney and a satisfaction was filed the next day. The property management company employee was subsequently arrested and pleas guilty to felony wire fraud charges in Federal Court.
- (d) Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? If so, please provide details. No.
- (e) Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, please provide details, along with proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults. No.
35. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal involved. No.

36. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees? I have not had any expenditures to date.
37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years. If you participate in any employer-mandated contributions to a PAC or any other political entity, please describe and note your personal involvement in contributions. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening.

I have not made any contributions to members of the General Assembly. My husband Christopher J. Murphy and/or his law firm MCM had made the following contributions: 04/12/2024 \$1,000 to Harriet Holman; 1/12/2024 \$1,000 to Christopher Murphy; 1/4/2024 \$1,000 to Gary Brewer; 6/23/2023 \$1,000 to Robert Robbins; 6/5/2023 \$1,000 to Gary Brewer; 5/9/2023 \$1,000 Fawn Pedalino; 3/14/2023 \$1,000 Christopher Murphy; 3/10/2023 \$1,000 G. Murrell Smith, Jr.; 12/9/2022 \$1,000 Christopher Murphy; 10/13/2022 \$1,000 to Christopher Murphy; 6/21/2022 \$1,000 to Christopher Murphy; 1/3/2022 \$1,000 to Robert Robbins; 8/24/2020 \$1,000 to Thomas Brittain, Jr.; 6/30/2020 \$1,000 to Christopher Murphy.

38. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation. No.
39. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek or currently hold. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. The only relationship which would constitute a conflict of interest as a former business partner and spouse would be with my husband or members of his current law firm. I recuse myself from hearing any matters in which they would be a party or if they would have any interest in the outcome of the litigation.
40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
- (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a South Carolina state or local public agency;
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more; or
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.

List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:

- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and

- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

Not applicable.

41. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina state or local public agency. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency. Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

Not applicable.

42. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here. I have a Roth IRA [Redacted]
43. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received. No.
44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office? No.
45. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

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

46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain. No.
47. Have you ever been sued by a client? Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.

I was involved in a probate action in California which was filed as a petition to determine the ownership of a leasehold interest in a parcel of property previously owned by my

grandfather, Dr. Arman F. Frederickson, in the British Virgin Islands. My grandfather owned the leasehold interest in said property and transferred it to my husband and me approximately three years prior to his death in 2008. Subsequent to his death, his estate filed a petition to rescind said transfer despite clear evidence of the validity of the transfer to include: an original handwritten letter from him asking us to accept the leasehold interest as a gift; an affidavit which he executed and which was filed with the government of the British Virgin Islands; notarized lease documents which he executed in California; and, various witnesses to include legal counsel in the British Virgin Islands that were witnesses to his competency and desire to transfer the property as a gift to me and my husband. This matter was resolved through mediation in November of 2009. The agreement was subsequently approved by the court and there were no admissions or findings of fact of any misconduct against me or my husband.

I was sued in a professional capacity by an inmate by the name of Denny Bates. I had prosecuted Mr. Bates for criminal sexual conduct with a minor in the first degree. Solicitor Walter Bailey was also sued in this matter. The complaint was given to the Insurance Reserve Fund to defend and the case was subsequently dismissed.

I was informed during my last screening that I was named a party in Troy Waymer v. Maite Murphy 2013-CP-18-00186 and Nathaniel Gold v. Kenneth Hasty, 2018-CP-10-02534. I was never served with these pleadings and both were disposed of.

My husband and I were named defendants in a dog bite personal injury case in Civil Action No.: 2019-CP-18-0047. The case was filed in Dorchester County in March of 2019 alleging personal injuries due to a dog bite that occurred at our home. The matter was settled and dismissed in March of 2020.

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

Not applicable.

49. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been cautioned with or without a finding of misconduct, sanctioned, or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or has any jurisdiction found that you committed any misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition. Include any and all confidential and public sanctions, disciplines, letters of caution, or findings of misconduct of any kind. Private or confidential dispositions will be redacted.

[Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]

50. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details. No.
51. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened, or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? If so, give details. No.
52. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative. I have not campaigned for this position and have not requested any third parties contact any members of the General Assembly on my behalf.
53. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule? Yes.
54. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details. No.
55. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application.*
- (a) Sheriff L.C. Knight
Dorchester County Sheriff
[Redacted]
- (b) William R. Hearn, Jr.
[Redacted]
- (c) Mark A. Leinendecker, (Retired Public Defender)
First Circuit Public Defender's Office
[Redacted]

(d) Julie J. Armstrong
Clerk of Court Charleston County
[Redacted]

(e) Russ Touchberry, Mayor
Town of Summerville
[Redacted]

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

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

I have an X account. [Redacted]

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

I use the X (formerly Twitter) account to keep up with current events. I have rarely posted anything. I do not have any other internet or social media site memberships. My husband does have a Facebook and Instagram membership and he does post family activities which include me. Serving in a judicial capacity I am very careful to not engage in any social media activities that would create a potential conflict of interest or create an appearance of impropriety of my judicial position.

57. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, and any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)

58. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

I have had the unique opportunity throughout my career to serve on all sides of the bench. I have the opportunity to learn much from other attorneys, judges, litigants and victims of crimes or circumstances. I continually strive to be, and will continue to strive to be, the kind of judge that is above all fair, well-versed in the law, and one that treats all witnesses, jurors, litigants and their counsel respectfully.

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

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: _____

Sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 2024.

(Notary Signature)

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