



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

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court, Ninth Judicial Circuit,
Seat #2

1. Name: Mr. Bryan A. Alfaro

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

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

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Berkeley

Business Address: 400 Altman St, Suite F-1, Moncks Corner, SC 29461
[Note: as of 9/15/24, address will be 400 Altman St, Suite E, Moncks
Corner, SC 29461]

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): (843) 364-4095
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted]1972
Place of Birth: Charleston, SC
Social Security Number: [Redacted]

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

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

5. Have you served in the military? No

6. Family Status: Divorced
Divorced on January 10, 2014, Charleston County, S.C. Family Court, Bryan A. Alfaro was
moving party, One Year's Continuous Separation.
No Children.

7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, August 1990 – April 1994, Bachelor of Science in Criminology
 - (b) University of South Carolina, School of Law, Columbia, SC, August 2000 – May 2003, Juris Doctor

8. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
 - (a) Law Clerk at Richland County Solicitor's Office, 2001-2003

9. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
 - (a) South Carolina, admitted 2003, took bar exam once

10. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts.
 - (a) Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office
 - a. Assistant Solicitor, Charleston County Family Court, February 2004 – February 2005
 - i. Prosecuted juvenile offenders for variety of criminal offenses ranging from status offenses to violent offenses. Represented the State in hearings and bench trials in Family Court.
 - b. Assistant Solicitor, Charleston County General Sessions, February 2005 – September 2007
 - i. Prosecuted General Sessions offenses, including but not limited to drug offenses, person crimes, property crimes, white collar crimes, and violent crimes. Represented the State in plea hearings, bond hearings, motion hearings, and jury trials.
 - c. Deputy Solicitor, Berkeley County Solicitor's Office, September 2007 – April 2021
 - i. Managed day to day operations of Berkeley Solicitor's Office. Directly supervised office personnel, including General Sessions and Family Court attorneys and support staff. Administrative responsibilities

included personnel decisions, such as hiring and employee discipline. Responsible for preparing and managing annual office budgets and expenditures from County Operating Budget, State Funds, and spending accounts. Responsible for compiling and managing trial dockets, plea dockets, and other hearings dockets. Responsible for managing caseload consisting of primarily Murders, Armed Robberies, Trafficking, and other violent and serious offenses. Represented the State in jury trials and other in court hearings. Direct point of contact with Clerk of Court, judiciary, and local law enforcement.

- d. Chief Deputy Solicitor, Charleston and Berkeley Counties, April 2021 – February 2023
 - i. Managed day to day operations of Ninth Circuit Solicitor’s Office. Supervised office personnel, including General Sessions and Family Court attorneys and support staff. Administrative responsibilities included managing personnel issues, assisting with preparing and managing annual office budgets and expenditures. Responsible for compiling and managing trial dockets. Responsible for managing caseload consisting of primarily Murders, Armed Robberies, Trafficking, and other violent and serious offenses. Represented the State in jury trials and other in-court hearings. Direct point of contact with Clerk of Court.
- e. Part-time City Prosecutor, City of Hanahan, February 2023 – Current
 - i. Prosecutes municipal level criminal offenses for City of Hanahan. Primarily DUIs, Domestic Violence 3rd, Shoplifting and other Municipal Court offenses for the City of Hanahan on a part-time basis.
- f. Owner and Operating Attorney, Alfaro Law Firm, LLC, February 2023 – Current
 - i. Solo law practitioner, with primary focus on criminal defense in Circuit Court, Magistrate Court, and Municipal Court across the state. In addition to criminal defense, practice has handled personal injury cases, school administrative hearings, and probate work involving durable powers of attorney and health care powers of attorney. Solely responsible for managing the firm’s budget and expenditures, along with the firm’s operating account and IOLTA trust account.

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 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.

I have practiced criminal law since 2004, when I began my career with the Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office. I was initially assigned to the Family Court division where I prosecuted juvenile offenders for firearms offenses, assaults, drug cases, and status offenses. I conducted court hearings and bench trials. From 2005-2007, I was an Assistant Solicitor in Charleston's General Sessions division, where I conducted jury trials, plea hearings, bond hearings, and motion hearings. I was promoted to Deputy Solicitor for Berkeley County in 2007, where I prosecuted a caseload consisting of various criminal charges, including murders, armed robberies, sexual assaults, felony dui, drug offenses, property crimes, and white-collar crimes. I conducted jury trials, plea hearings, bond hearings, and motion hearings. I was also responsible for compiling and managing General Sessions plea dockets and trial dockets. In 2021, I was promoted to Chief Deputy Solicitor for the circuit. I prosecuted criminal charges including but not limited to murders, arsons, robberies, felony dui, and other violent and/or serious offenses. I also was responsible for managing priority trial dockets. In 2023, I left the Solicitor's Office to begin solo law practice. In private practice, I have represented criminal defendants in General Sessions Court, Summary Court, Family Court, and Administrative Law hearings. I have also been a part time prosecutor for the City of Hanahan since 2023, where I prosecute criminal defendants in Municipal Court.

In the past five years alone, I would conservatively estimate I have appeared in General Sessions Court as a prosecutor or defense attorney on hundreds of occasions for plea hearings, bond hearings, roll call appearances, and multiple jury trials.

Since entering private practice in 2023, in addition to my heavy criminal caseload, I have also handled three civil personal injury cases as a plaintiff's attorney. In one case a lawsuit has been filed that is currently pending in Charleston County Common Pleas Court. In the other two cases, we are still seeking a settlement that makes my clients whole without having to file a suit. In addition to these cases, I have also had multiple opportunities to consult with potential personal injury clients in contemplation of being retained. In each of those instances I researched the relevant law and issues and sought guidance from other attorneys

with more civil experience. I have also participated in depositions and mediation on other civil cases.

While my civil practice experience does lack in comparison to my expansive criminal law experience, I believe the skills, reputation, and attributes I have developed during twenty plus years of handling General Sessions jury trials, bench trials, capital trials, plea hearings, motions hearings, bond hearings, and other courtroom matters, as well as my experience in docket management and case analysis, have more than prepared me to effectively preside over both Commons Pleas and General Sessions Court. While I am aware that I will have to continue to develop my level of knowledge regarding law and procedure specific to Common Pleas matters, I know I have the necessary work ethic to quickly develop in this area. Further, I believe that all candidates, regardless of their primary areas of experience, should be expected to continue to learn and develop knowledge in all areas, so I do not think this makes me less qualified or prepared to serve as a Circuit Court judge than a candidate with more civil experience than me. In addition, I already possess the necessary judicial temperament, demeanor, ethical fitness, professionalism, and willingness to work that is needed to excel on the bench.

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: N/A
 - (b) state: During the past five years, while serving as Deputy Solicitor for the Berkeley County Solicitor's Office, General Sessions Court was usually scheduled for an average of two weeks per month. When Court was in session, I appeared in court daily to conduct plea hearings, bond hearings, motion hearings, or trials. In addition, I attended court to manage the docket by setting the order of cases to be called by Assistant Solicitors in my office, and to work directly with judicial and Clerk of Court staff to ensure the dockets ran smoothly. While serving as Chief Deputy Solicitor for the Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office, General Sessions Court was usually scheduled in multiple courtrooms for two or three weeks in a row. I would estimate I averaged a few appearances in court each month to conduct plea hearings, bond hearings, and motion hearings for my assigned cases. In addition, I had multiple cases called for trial during this period. As part-time prosecutor for the City of Hanahan since February 2023, I appear in Municipal Court once a week to conduct plea hearings or place other dispositions on the record. As a solo practitioner since February 2023, I appear in General Sessions, Magistrate, and Municipal Courts across the state on a weekly basis as a criminal defense attorney, often multiple times per week in multiple jurisdictions. I have also appeared in Administrative Law hearings on multiple occasions during this time frame.

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: 2%
 - (b) criminal: 96%
 - (c) domestic: 0
 - (d) other: 2%

14. During the past five years
- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 95
 - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? 3
 - (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? 0 (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? 1

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

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) State of South Carolina vs Michael Slager, 412 S.C. 127, 771 S.E.2d 636 (2015)

I participated as a prosecutor in this extremely high-profile General Sessions jury trial of a North Charleston Police Officer who was charged with Murder for shooting an unarmed black motorist in the back multiple times as he was running away. This case received national media attention and trial coverage. In addition, it had a significant impact on the local community given the dynamics of race and police misconduct involved.

- (b) State of South Carolina v Colin Broughton

This was a General Sessions capital trial I prosecuted in Berkeley County involving a Defendant who murdered and sexually assaulted his aunt and murdered his cousin. He then attempted to burn down the residence where the murders occurred to cover up evidence of his crimes. Given that it was a capital case, the pre-trial hearings and actual trial of the case were very complex. In addition, given the familial relationship of defendant and victims, the case was extremely emotionally charged.

(c) State of South Carolina v Aaron Capers

This was a General Sessions trial I prosecuted in Berkeley County involving an elderly female victim who was physically and sexually assaulted during a home invasion. This case is significant to me, not only because of the horrendous facts of the case, but because of the inspiring strength and courage of the victim during the pendency of the case and the actual trial. By that point in my career, I had handled thousands of cases, including hundreds of violent crimes, but the facts of this case and the personal history of the victim in this case were so powerful that it reminded me of the stakes involved for everyone that is a victim, defendant, or witness in our system. While judges and attorneys may become numb to the daily grind of the system, for others their individual case may be the most significant thing to ever happen to them or a loved one. As such, I believe we must treat each case with the respect and attention it deserves for the benefit of all involved and the system.

(d) State of South Carolina v Expunged

This was a General Sessions case I handled as a defense attorney. My client was a young man in the military, with no criminal record, and enrolled in a high-level military training program when he was accused of sexual assault. After my investigation of the evidence and allegations, it was shown that the accusations were false and as a result I was able to meet with the prosecutor and she agreed that the charges should be dismissed. By helping him with this case, the charges were dismissed and expunged and the young man was able to return to full duty and return to the training program. This case is significant in that this young man's entire life could have been ruined if these allegations were not found to be false. As a result, he was able to have his name cleared and return to his career.

(e) State of South Carolina v Jerald Howard

This was a General Sessions trial I prosecuted involving a defendant who murdered his girlfriend in Spartanburg County. The victim's body was recovered in Berkeley County; therefore, we conducted the trial in Berkeley. The trial itself was extremely complex and difficult. The amount of time that passed between the victim being reported missing and the recovery of her body, along with the attempts made by defendant to contaminate the crime scene, severely limited the ability of law enforcement and the medical examiner to conduct their investigations. Despite these obstacles, we were able to obtain the conviction after a difficult trial.

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) None
- (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) None
 - (b)
 - (c)
 - (d)
 - (e)
18. Have you ever held judicial office? No
19. If the answer to question 18 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also, list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.
- (a) N/A
 - (b)
 - (c)
 - (d)
 - (e)
20. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information to administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
- (a) South Carolina Bar, admitted November 17, 2003
 - (b) United States District Court of South Carolina, May 26, 2023
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 served as an instructor at the SC Prosecution Commission's Bootcamp Program on multiple occasions (2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2022). This program is designed for Assistant Solicitors with less than two years of prosecutorial experience. The program involves classroom lectures and presentations on a variety of topics, along with practical performances by the students of opening statements, direct examinations, cross examinations, and closing arguments. These performances are then critiqued by the instructors.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.
- (a) See attached

23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (a) None
24. Please furnish as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary author, to include a description of the other authors and their contributions. The writing samples are for the Commission's use only and will not be published. (If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable.)
- (a) See attached
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.
- (a) N/A
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
(b) Charleston County Bar Association
(c) Berkeley County Bar Association
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 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.
- (a) N/A
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.
- (a) N/A
29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?
- (a) No

30. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.

(a) Police Officer, Town of Mount Pleasant Police Department (Mount Pleasant, SC), September 1995 – July 2003.

During my time with the Mount Pleasant Police Department, I served as a patrol officer, Field Training Officer, and Corporal. In addition, during my tenure I was a member of the department's SWAT team and Crisis Negotiation Team.

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.

(a) I am currently owner and operating attorney of my own law practice, Alfaro Law Firm, LLC, since February 2023.

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)? No

33. Provide, **as a separate attachment**, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:

(a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and

(b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

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

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

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

34. (a) Have you filed state and federal income tax returns for the last 5 years? Yes
(b) Have you or any business with which you are associated been delinquent in any local, state, or federal taxes? No
(c) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? No
(d) Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? No
(e) Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? 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?
- (a) 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?
- (a) N/A
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.
- (a) N/A
38. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? 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.
- (a) I do not have any current or previous financial or business relationships that I believe do, or could, constitute a conflict of interest.
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.

My father owned a piece of property in Moncks Corner, SC, which he received from his father in 1976. I currently own that parcel of land as of 2017. While my father owned the property in 2008, the SC Department of Transportation purchased a small portion of the land that was adjacent to a public highway for the sum of one thousand four hundred dollars. Deed and other relevant documents attached.

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.

(a) N/A

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.

(a) N/A

43. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.

(a) N/A

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

(a) N/A

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

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

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

(a) No

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

(a) No

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

(a) I have carried malpractice insurance since February 3, 2023. My current limit of liability for each claim is \$100,000 and \$300,000 aggregate. My deductible is \$2,500 per claim. I have never had a tail policy.

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.

(a) No to both questions

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.

(a) 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.
- (a) I have not requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly. I have done no campaigning for this election, nor have I asked others to do so. I am not aware of anyone who has campaigned for me on their own initiative.
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?
- (a) 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.
- (a) 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) Shaun C. Kent, [Redacted]
(b) David Pascoe, First Circuit Solicitor, [Redacted]
(c) Robert Bolchoz, [Redacted]
(d) Nathan S. Williams, [Redacted]
(e) Andrew J. Savage, III, [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.
- (a) Facebook: [Redacted]
(b) LinkedIn: [Redacted]

- (c) Instagram: [Redacted]
- (d) Twitter/X: [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?

- (a) I would deactivate all social media accounts if elected to the bench. I did not create or use the Facebook or Instagram accounts until leaving the Solicitor's Office to open my own practice. Facebook is primarily for advertising and marketing. I have never posted anything to my Instagram account.

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) Etiwan Lodge #95, Mount Pleasant, SC, no offices held

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.

Both of my grandfathers immigrated to America from the Philippines in the early 1900s, each served in the military and became US citizens. Despite coming to America without much to their names, they were each able to build a life for themselves and raise families in Berkeley County. My dad served twenty-six years in the Air Force, and an additional twenty-six years in the civil service, retiring from both. My mom worked as an RN for over 30 years, a substantial portion of that time as a single mom after they divorced. I learned early in life the value of public service, sacrifice, and the benefit of working hard.

My first job after college was serving as a police officer for the Town of Mount Pleasant. There I learned to process information and make decisions while under stress. I also learned the value of exhibiting a command presence, which is a concept similar to what is referred to as judicial temperament when discussing judges. This leadership trait requires one to be consistent in their conduct and maintain their composure and calm demeanor, regardless of what is going on around them. In law enforcement, this is necessary to deescalate situations and perform your duties in an effective way. A judge is the leader of the courtroom. If the judge is dismissive, arrogant, or quick to anger, the attorneys that appear before them, as well as the courthouse staff and the public, can lose faith in the fairness and integrity of the system and the judiciary. It is important that those appearing in court feel they are treated respectfully, while being given the opportunity to be heard and considered. The necessity of maintaining an appropriate judicial temperament is essential to the successful administration of justice.

While working for the Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office, I was promoted to Deputy Solicitor and Chief Deputy Solicitor. In both of those management roles I continued to

attempt to lead by example and teach new attorneys the correct way to handle their work responsibilities. I always strive to be the most prepared person in any courtroom I enter, and I sought to inspire that same level of preparation and professionalism in the other attorneys and staff in the office.

As a judge I intend to continue to put in as much work as necessary to prepare for court and to fulfill my duties in an efficient and professional manner. I also recognize how important it is for a judge to be respectful of others' time and schedule by being punctual and making every attempt to handle every case docketed before them each court session.

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: _____