

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE 2024

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Family Court Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat # 6

1. Name:

Mr. Jonathan Drew Hammond

Name that you are known by if different from above

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: Greenville County

Business Address: 1015 W. Poinsett Street, Greer, SC 29650

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]

(office): 864-977-1889 (cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted]1976 Place of Birth: Greenville, 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#: SCDL# [Redacted]
 Voter Registration Number: [Redacted]
- 5. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.

I have never served in the military.

- 6. Family Status:
 - (a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated. Married.

- (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation.
 Married on February 14, 2014 to Amanda Beth Hammond. My spouse is employed as a paralegal for Sysco Corporation.
- (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s). Not Applicable.
- (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.

Divorced on March 2, 2005 from Jamie Millar Harris in Greenville County Family Court under Docket Number 2004-DR-23-4555. I was the moving party in the action, and the divorce was granted based on the parties living separate and apart from one another for one year.

Divorced on July 23, 2012 from Samantha Brooke Chapman Evans in Florence County Family Court. I was the moving party in the action, and the divorce was granted based on the parties living separate and apart from one another for one year.

(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.

I have 2 stepchildren and 1 natural child. [Redacted]

- 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) Presbyterian College –1994 –1998. I graduated from Presbyterian College in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Cum Laude.
 - (b) University of South Carolina School of Law 1998 2001. I graduated from USC Law School in 2001 with a 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.

Black Law Students' Association - 1998-2001

I also served as a law clerk to the South Carolina House of Representatives Judiciary Committee during my second and third years of law school.

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.

State of South Carolina - 2001

- 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) United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Spartanburg, SC, 2001-2002, Law Clerk, Served as Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Margaret B. Seymour; drafted orders, opinions, and jury charges for civil and criminal matters before the United States District Court; prepared memoranda; assisted Judge with legal research; provided support to Judge during hearings and trials.
 - (b) Leatherwood Walker Todd & Mann, P.C., Greenville, SC, 2002-2004; 2005-2006, Attorney, Served as counsel to individuals and entities in legal matters related to products liability claims, premises liability claims, construction claims, and general business matters.
 - (c) Jackson Lewis, LLP, Greenville, SC, 2004-2005, Attorney, Served as counsel to entities in legal matters related to employment law claims and employee benefits claims.
 - (d) Ohio Casualty Group/Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, Greenville, SC, 2007-2008, Staff Attorney, Served as staff counsel to individuals and entities in legal matters related to personal injury, premises liability claims, and construction claims; managed office administrative matters.
 - (e) Turner Padget Graham & Laney, P.A., Greenville, SC, 2008-2011, Attorney, Served as counsel to individuals and entities in legal matters related to products liability claims, premises liability claims, construction claims, personal injury claims, and general business disputes.
 - (f) Weldon Hammond Law Firm, LLC, Greenville, SC, 2011-2015, Attorney/Owner Served as counsel to individuals and entities in legal matters including domestic relations and general civil matters; managed administrative matters related to law practice.
 - (g) South Carolina Department of Social Services, Greenville, SC, 2015-2017, County Attorney, Served as counsel for agency in abuse and neglect matters pending in Family Court; provided counsel to agency employees regarding legal matters pending before the Family Court.
 - (h) South Carolina Department of Social Services, Spartanburg, SC, 2017-2018, County Director, Served as County Director for one of the largest offices of state agency responsible for administration of human services, economic services and emergency

preparedness; managed daily operations of county office including personnel, fiscal, policy, compliance, and quality improvement matters; coordinated, promoted and maintained relationships with community partners and external stakeholders.

(i) Jonathan D. Hammond, Attorney at Law, Greenville, SC, 2018 - Present, Attorney, Serve as counsel to individuals and entities in legal matters including domestic relations and general civil matters; manage administrative matters related to law practice.

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

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.

Since 2011, my experience in Family Court has included serving as lead counsel for parties in hundreds of actions involving divorce, equitable division of property, custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, termination of parental rights. I have had only limited involvement in juvenile justice actions since 2011, but I have had indirect involvement in such matters during my time as a County Attorney for Greenville County DSS. I routinely represent individuals as plaintiffs and defendants in private domestic relations litigation. I previously have represented the Department of Social Services as a County Attorney prosecuting abuse and neglect matters. I currently represent Guardians ad Litem in abuse and neglect actions in three different counties in the Upstate. I regularly serve as a Guardian ad Litem for minor children in contested matters throughout the Upstate of South Carolina. I represent foster parents seeking adoption of children in DSS custody. I also represent individuals who are named as Defendants in actions filed by DSS and child protective services investigation conducted by DSS.

I regularly appear before the Family Court throughout the Upstate counties of South Carolina, such as Greenville, Spartanburg, Pickens, Anderson, Cherokee, Union and Laurens. I also occasionally appear in other counties throughout the State, such as York, Greenwood and Lancaster. I am comfortable handling all aspects of matters that take place in the Family Court. I believe I maintain a favorable reputation among the members of the bar and the Family Court Judges I encounter professionally and personally.

(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.

Not Applicable.

(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.

Not Applicable.

(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.

Not Applicable.

- 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: 0%
 - (b) state: 100%
- 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: 1%
 - (c) domestic: 97%
 - (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? 99%
- (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? 30-40
- (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? 0

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

I most often serve as sole counsel.

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

Not Applicable.

- 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) <u>Stephanie Collins v Gary Collins</u>, 2014-DR-04-2105. This divorce involved a dispute regarding the value and equitable division of significant marital assets. I represented Plaintiff, along with my former law partner. After multiple days of trial, the Family Court awarded my client nearly three quarters of a million dollars in funds as part of a division of assets, along with a significant attorney's fee award.
 - (b) <u>John and Jane Smith v Candis Sheffield, Richard Matthews, SCDSS</u>, 2021-DR-46-1671. This matter involved a consolidated private action and an underlying DSS removal Action of two minor children. I represented the foster parents of one of the children, who was in DSS custody. SCDSS was recommending a plan of reunification with the birth parents at the beginning of the litigation. After a multi-day contested trial, the Family Court terminated the parental rights of the birth parents, clearing the path for my clients to adopt the child.
 - (c) <u>John Smith and Jane Smith v Devin Wilson, David Mize, SCDSS</u>, 2022-DR-23-0255. This matter involved a contested action for termination of parental rights. I represented the foster parents of the child, who were seeking to adopt the child. The birth father contested the termination and sought to have the child returned to his custody. After a contested hearing, the Family Court terminated the parental rights of both birth parents, and my clients were able to proceed with adoption of the child.
 - (d) <u>John Doe and Jane Doe v SCDSS</u>, 2022-DR-23-2052. This matter involved competing petitions for adoption of twin siblings. I represented the foster parents of the children, who were seeking adoption. The maternal grandparents were also seeking adoption of the children. After a multi-day hearing, the Family Court granted my clients' petition to adopt the children.
 - (e) Ryan Wilson v Charli Goetze Cooper, 2022-DR-30-0296. This action involved a

dispute for custody of two minor children between the biological parents. I represented the mother of the children. While the case was pending, my client got married and relocated to the State of Florida, thereby creating an additional burden for my client to maintain custody of the children. After several days of trial, the Family Court awarded primary custody of the children to my client.

- 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) <u>John and Jane Smith v SCDSS, Devin Wilson, David Mize,</u> Appellate Case No. 2022-000595, TPR Affirmed 5/26/23
 - (b) <u>John and Jane Smith v Candis Sheffield, Richard Matthews, SCDSS</u>, Appellate Case No. 2023-000018, TPR Affirmed 12/5/23
 - (c) <u>SCDSS v Jennifer Smith, Kemyel Robinson, Van James, Lauren James, Marcos Stephens, Jocelyn Stephens,</u> Appellate Case No. 2023-000991 Appeal pending (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? 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 have not held judicial office previously and do not currently hold judicial office.

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.

Not Applicable.

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.

State of South Carolina - November 2001

United States District Court of South Carolina - 2002

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.

No.

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

I have attached reports of CLE compliance from 2019-2023.

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.)
 - (a) Supplemental Petition for Writ of Supersedeas and Other Interim Relief, South Carolina Court of Appeals, Appellate Case Number 2023-000991
 - (b) Motion in Limine to Exclude Testimony and Evidence, Greenville County Family Court, Docket Number 2023-DR-23-0595
- 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 am not a member of any legal rating organization and am not aware of any rating that has been issued to me.

- 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 No titles or offices
 - (b) Greenville County Bar Association No titles or offices
- 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.

I was previously employed as the County Director of Spartanburg County Department of Social Services from February 2017 to February 2018. Although this position was not an elected position, I believe that I was required to submit a report to the State Ethics Commission during my service in that position.

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.

Not Applicable.

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

I have not run for elective, judicial, or public office previously.

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 was employed as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Margaret B. Seymour of the United States District Court from 2001 to 2002 immediately following my graduation from law school. I was employed as the County Director of Spartanburg County Department of Social Services from February 2017 to February 2018. Prior to law school, I maintained a variety of part-time or seasonal employment positions while I was a student in high school, college and during law school.

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.

I am the sole owner and member of my current law firm, Jonathan D. Hammond, Attorney at Law, LLC. In that capacity, I am solely responsible for management of all decisions related to the operation of my law firm.

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 was provided to the Commission.

- 34. (a) Have you filed state and federal income tax returns for the last 5 years? If no, please provide details. I have filed state and federal income tax returns for the last four years. I am filing state and federal income tax returns for 2023 within the next 15 days.
 - (b) Have you or any business with which you are associated been delinquent in any local, state, or federal taxes? If yes, please provide details. I filed my personal income tax returns for the year 2012 late, but have completed all filings for that year.
 - (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. I have had liens filed by the SC Department of Employment Workforce against my law firm. To my knowledge all liens have been satisfied.
 - (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 spent \$19.66 on postage and fees for fingerprinting.

37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years. If you participate in any employer-mandated contributions to a PAC or any other political entity, please describe and note your personal involvement in contributions. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening.

None.

38. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.

No.

39. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek or currently hold. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.

I am not aware of any such financial arrangements or business relationships that would result in a conflict of interest for me if I am elected to serve as a Family Court Judge. In the event I became aware of any such potential conflict, I would take direction from the applicable Judicial Canons to address the conflict.

- 40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
 - 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.

Not Applicable.

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

- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

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

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.

Not Applicable.

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.

Not Applicable.

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

Not Applicable.

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 have never been sued by a client. I have been a named party to several civil proceedings as an adult.

- (a) Jonathan Hammond v Jamie Harris, 2004-DR-23-4555 Divorce action; Judgment issued March 2, 2005.
- (b) SCBT v Brooke Hammond and Jonathan Hammond 2012-CP-23-4781 Foreclosure action; Judgment issued January 31, 2013. This matter was filed against my exwife and myself after our separation but prior to our divorce being finalized.
- (c) Jonathan Drew Hammond v Samantha Brooke Chapman Hammond 2012-DR-21-1122- Divorce action; Judgment issued July 23, 2012.
- (d) Amanda Hammond and Jonathan Hammond v SCDOT, 2023-CP-23-0731 Property damage action; Judgment issued August 26, 2024.
- (e) Deutsche Bank National Trust Company v Clarence Hammond, William Hammond and Jonathan Hammond, 2024-CP-23-1195; Foreclosure action against the Estate of a

deceased relative and all beneficiaries of the Estate. The action is pending resolution following sale of property by the Estate.

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

I am covered by malpractice insurance and have been so covered since I began practicing law. I am not aware of a tail policy being issued in my name. My current coverage amounts are \$300,000 each claim and \$600,000 policy aggregate.

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.

Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened, or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? If so, give details.

No.

52. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative.

No.

53. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?

Yes.

54. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.

I have not contacted any member of the JMSC and I am not aware of anyone doing so on my behalf.

- List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with <u>original letters</u> 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 <u>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.</u> Please <u>do not</u> 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) Danielle M. Mitchell, Esq., [Redacted]
 - (b) Vanessa H. Kormylo, Esq., [Redacted]
 - (c) Amanda B. Stiles, Esq., [Redacted]
 - (d) Samuel C. Weldon, Esq., [Redacted]
 - (e) Stephanie Kitchens, Director of Union [Redacted]
- 56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, etc.?

I do not have any social media accounts.

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

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

I do not intend to open or activate a social media account if I am elected to the Family Court.

- 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) Pendleton Place Board of Directors, 2019-2020

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

My legal career did not begin in the Family Court. In fact, I spent the beginning of my legal career working in larger law firms handling civil cases in the Court of Common Pleas and United States District Court. I was introduced to Family Court through an appointment for an indigent party in a DSS action when I was practicing with a larger law firm as an associate. Despite the difficulty of the case and the gravity of the situation, I felt drawn to Family Court in a way that made me realize I had a passion for being a Family Court practitioner. Since I transitioned into a near-exclusive Family Court practice, I have had the opportunity to work with highly qualified and distinguished attorneys and appear before some of the most dedicated and wise Judges in our State. I feel called to serve in the Family Court, and I believe I can continue to serve the citizens of my community and the State as a Judge of the Family Court. I am truly humbled to have an opportunity to seek a position as a Family Court Judge.

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:	