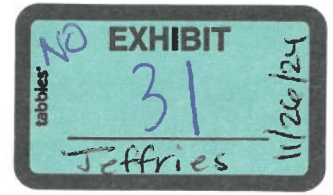


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
2024**



Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Administrative Law Court, Seat 2

1. Name: Hon. Bryan S. Jeffries

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

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

Yes.

- (a) Chief Administrative Judge, City of Columbia Municipal Court
- (b) Chief Judge, City of Cayce Municipal Court (part-time)

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Lexington

Business Addresses: (a) 811 Washington Street
Columbia, SC 29201

(b) 2 Lavern Jumper Rd
Cayce, SC 29271

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): 803-545-3126
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted]1975
Place of Birth: Washington, DC
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. No
6. Family Status:
 - (a) Married in Richland County, South Carolina, to Lakesha White Jeffries, Attorney at Law, Jeffries Law Firm LLC, on January 20, 2003
 - (b) Never divorced
 - (c) children: [Redacted]
 - (d)
7. University of South Carolina, August 1993-May 1998, B.S. Criminal Justice
University of South Carolina School of Law, August 1999-May 2002 J.D.
8. Chairman, Minority Affair/Minority Recruitment, Student Bar Association
Vice-President, Black Law Students Association
9. Admitted to the South Carolina Bar November 18, 2002, passing bar exam on the first attempt.
10. Upon graduation in May of 2002, I accepted a position as Assistant Solicitor for the Fifth Circuit Solicitor's Office, primarily prosecuting violent criminal cases in Richland and Kershaw Counties. During this period, I also served on the Richland County Grievance Committee hearing administrative appeals. I accepted a position as First Assistant Solicitor for the First Circuit Solicitor's Office prosecuting violent criminal cases in Calhoun, Orangeburg and Dorchester Counties in January of 2005. In this role I supervised a team of six prosecutors and acted as special violent crime prosecutor for the circuit. I also coordinated the general sessions terms of court in Orangeburg County. I worked in this capacity from January 2005-January 2008. In January 2008, I started private law practice but remained employed by the First Circuit Solicitor's Office as a part-time assistant solicitor. I started Jeffries Law Firm, LLC as owner and operator. I managed the two-attorney law firm's operating account as well as it's trust account. I practiced primarily administrative law, with cases involving social security disability and bankruptcy. In addition to this, I practiced administrative law on behalf of Orangeburg County in employee grievance matters prior to becoming a judge in 2018. I also handled criminal defense, civil rights, personal injury, and family court abuse and neglect cases.

During my 20 years of private practice, I worked at different times by part-time contract through my law firm, as an attorney for the South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense (SCCID), the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission (SCHAC), Orangeburg County and the University of South Carolina School of Law. I also worked as a hearing officer for the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) and South Carolina Department of Unemployment and Workforce (SCDEW) by contract. I continued with the First Circuit Solicitor's Office as a part-time prosecutor handling domestic violence and DUI prosecutions from January 2008 until November 2019. I started as a part-time municipal judge for the City of Columbia Municipal Court in July 2018 and as a part-time Chief Judge for the City of Cayce in May 2019. As an attorney, I

continued to practice primarily administrative law regularly representing clients before Federal Administrative Law Judges (ALJ) of the Social Security Administration in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia until February 2023.

I worked as a contract hearing officer for SCDHHS from November 2012 until February 2023 in a quasi-judicial administrative law fact-finder role, hearing South Carolina Medicaid appeals cases. In that role I served as an independent and impartial trier of fact in formal proceedings following appeals from SCDHHS agency decisions. I made on the record written decisions following hearings. Those wishing to appeal my decisions would request review by the South Carolina Administrative Law Court. The hearings I presided over are required pursuant to state statutes involving the South Carolina Medicaid program. I primarily heard provider payment and disability eligibility matters. As hearing officer, I also oversaw settlement negotiations in advance of hearings, ruled on preliminary motions, and conducted pre-hearing conferences. I conducted hearings involving both written and oral testimony and allowing for cross-examination. I also typically reviewed briefs prior to issuing written decisions. I prepared and issued these decisions, along with written findings of fact and conclusions of law therein, upon consideration of the whole record, or those parts of it cited by a party and supported by and in accord with reliable, probative, and substantial evidence.

I left the law firm and my hearing officer position with SCDHHS in February 2023 to accept a full-time position as Associate Municipal Judge for the City of Columbia Municipal Court. I was appointed Chief Administrative Judge for the City of Columbia Municipal Court in August of 2024. I currently serve in this capacity.

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:

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.

As an attorney over the past five years prior to February 2023 when I became a full-time judge, I appeared before Administrative Law Judges (ALJs), representing clients, in 4-5 hearings a week. These were hearings before ALJs assigned to the Social Security Administration in social security disability cases. The issues that were determined involved a claimant's eligibility for Social Security Disability coverage under Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act. The hearings typically involve a sequential analysis of written and testimonial evidence to determine if a claimant is entitled to disability benefits.

As a hearing officer for SCDHHS over the past 5 years prior to February 2023 when I became a full-time judge, I conducted hearings involving both written and oral

testimony and allowing for cross-examination. I typically reviewed briefs, examined evidence, heard testimony and issued written decisions. I prepared and issued these decisions, along with written findings of fact and conclusions of law therein, upon consideration of the whole record, or those parts of it cited by a party and supported by and in accord with reliable, probative, and substantial evidence. I was assigned approximately 10 appeals per month.

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: 70%
- (b) state: 30%

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:5%
- (b) criminal: 15%
- (c) domestic:0%
- (d) administrative:80%

14. During the past five years

(a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 80%

(b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict?

600+ decisions in administrative hearings
30+ verdicts in criminal prosecution cases

(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.

10+ guilty pleas and/or directed verdicts in criminal prosecutions following State's case
in criminal prosecutions I handled

(d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements?

3-4 times over five years of prosecution prior to becoming a full time judge.

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

Sole counsel at all times.

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? 80%

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 v Jeroid Price- I represented the State in the Richland County Court of General Sessions. The defendant was convicted of murder following a jury trial. The case involved a gang-related homicide of a University of North Carolina football player at a local night club. I was a second chair prosecutor during the trial. A unique issue for the jury's consideration was the proximate cause of death in that the victim was shot by multiple assailants. This case received significant media attention. The sentence was 35 years in prison.
 - (b) State v Hercules Mitchell- I personally handled this case, representing the State in the Orangeburg County Court of General Sessions. I was the first chair prosecutor. The defendant was tried and convicted of murder in a jury trial that received significant media attention. The sentence was 33 years in prison.
 - (c) State v Jimmy Taylor- I personally handled this case, representing the State in the Orangeburg County Court of General Sessions. I was the first chair prosecutor. The defendant was tried and convicted of four counts of felony driving under the influence involving death in a jury trial that received significant media attention. The defendant killed a family of four in a head-on collision while driving in an intoxicated state. A unique issue for the jury to determine was proximate cause of death in that the victims' vehicle was struck by multiple cars. The sentence was 20 years in prison.
 - (d) State v Lindy Jones- I personally handled this case as a prosecutor in the Orangeburg County Court of General Sessions. I was the first chair prosecutor. The defendant was tried and convicted of criminal sexual conduct with a minor in a jury trial that received significant media attention. Mr. Jones was sentenced to 16 years in prison for raping his step-daughter.
 - (e) State v Phillip Jackson- I personally handled this case as a prosecutor in the Richland County Court of General Sessions. I was the second chair prosecutor. The defendant was tried and convicted of murder in a jury trial that received significant local media attention. Jackson stabbed the victim several times in a dispute over illegal drugs. The sentence life in prison with no possibility of parole.
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. None

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) Henry Haygood v State-Orangeburg County Court of Common Pleas, 3/1/2010
- (b) William McCoy v State- Florence County Court of Commons Pleas, 9/11/2009
- (c) David Suarez v State- Orangeburg County Court of Common Pleas, 3/29/2016
- (d) Jeffrey Weston v State- Richland County Court of Common Pleas, 7/9/2008
- (e) Bobby Bell v State- Richland County Court of Common Pleas, 7/20/2010

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.

- (a) Municipal Judge, July 2018-present, City of Columbia Municipal Court, appointed
- (b) Municipal Judge, May 2019-present, City of Cayce Municipal Court, appointed

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.

Municipal Courts are summary courts. There are no significant orders or opinions issued.

These are Orders I issued as a Hearing Officer for the SCDHHS:

- Human-Yelvington v SCDHHS, Order of Dismissal of Appeal
- S.H. v SCDHHS v SCDHHS, Order of Dismissal of Appeal
- C.W. v Carolinas Hospital Systems Final Administrative Decision
- EMS v SCDHHS, Order of Dismissal of Appeal
- Hospice of Charleston v SCDHHS, Order of Dismissal of Appeal

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.

- South Carolina Bar, November 18, 2002
- United States District Court, District of South Carolina, January 31, 2008
- Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, September 11, 2009

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) University of South Carolina School of Law- instructing social services professionals working with Department of Social Services and juvenile justice professionals working with the Department of Juvenile Justice. In instruct these professionals on legal standards, constitutional law and administrative processes. I also participate in mock trial proceedings in a training format on behalf of the law school.
 - (b) Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College-taught courses in criminal law and civil procedure to paralegal associate degree candidates.
 - (c) South University-taught courses in criminal law and business law to legal studies bachelor's degree candidates.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.
 23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. 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.) 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. None
 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) Member, SC Bar Diversity Committee 2019-present
 - (b) Member, SC Bar Children's Law Committee 2021-present
 - (c) Member, Richland County Bar 2022-present
 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.

I became a full-time associate municipal judge with the City of Columbia Municipal Court in February 2023 following working as a part-time judge with this court since July of 2018. I have continued to work, by contract, for the USC School of Law participating in mock trials as part of the basic training for new-hire caseworkers for the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS) since accepting the full-time judge position. My supervisor is Kimberly Brooks, Children's Law Center, USC School of Law. She is the program manager for the SCDSS basic training program. I have worked with this program since July 16, 2021.

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

Unsuccessful candidate for South Carolina House District 95 in 2010.
Unsuccessful candidate for South Carolina Administrative Law Court in 2016. Found qualified but not nominated.

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 worked as a correctional officer for the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) May 1998-July 1999. I worked in the Maximum-Security Unit (MSU) at Kirkland Correctional Institution for 14 months after graduation from college and before starting law school. This was the super-max unit that held those considered to be the most violent and dangerous inmates in SCDC at the time. It was a 23-hour lock-down facility.

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 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. No
(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?

\$34.22 to Vistaprint for candidate business cards, July 31, 2024
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. None
40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:

- (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a South Carolina state or local public agency;
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more; or
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.
- None

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. None

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

None

42. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.

I currently own:

IRA investment account, Capital Bank and Trust, The Growth Fund of America

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 have never been sued by a client. I have been named in in two civil lawsuits and in two family court actions that appear erroneously in public records in the Court of Common Pleas:

- (a) I was a named defendant in Orangeburg County Magistrate's Court in 2012 in a contract dispute with a campaign vendor following an unsuccessful campaign for House of Representative's District 95 in 2010. The action was dismissed in June 2012. There were no court proceedings.
- (b) I was a named defendant in Orangeburg County Magistrate's Court in 2015 in a contract dispute with a company I worked for as an independent contractor in 2014. The dispute arose over tax liability for attorney's fees paid. My accountant resolved the matter with the company and the action was dismissed in 2015. There were no court proceedings.
- (c) I was a named plaintiff and a named defendant in Richland County Family Court actions (appears as Common Pleas) in 1999 for child visitation and subsequent modification involving my oldest daughter. I filed an action to establish and enforce visitation. Her mother later filed an action to modify our visitation schedule. We reached an agreement and there were no further court proceedings. This action was resolved in the Family Court but erroneously appears in the public index as a Court of Common Pleas matter.

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. No
53. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule? Yes
54. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details. No
55. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application.*
- (a) Joshua S. Kendrick, Esq. [Redacted]
 - (b) Jessica Mangum, Esq. [Redacted]
 - (c) Thomas B. Scott, Esq. [Redacted]
 - (d) Michael Witherspoon, Esq. [Redacted]
 - (e) Rachel Aucoin, Clerk of Court, [Redacted]
56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, etc.?

I am on Facebook and LinkedIn but I am not active. I do not post to any social media. Both accounts are in my name.

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 am currently a sitting judge and I am not active on any social media.

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.

Member, Rotary International, Cayce-West Columbia Chapter 2023-present

Ambassador for Racial Justice, Georgetown Law-2022

Member, Brotherhood, Brookland Baptist Church, 2023-present

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

My ultimate career goal has always been to serve my community as a judge. I have found the 6 years serving as a municipal judge in the city I grew up in to be the most fulfilling of my 21-year legal career. I strongly believe in public service, so I have opted for public sector employment my entire legal career. The position of judge is the ultimate public legal service in my estimation. My deceased aunt and mentor, Judge Sandra Townes, was a Federal District Court Judge in the Eastern District of New York before she passed away in 2018. She grew up in Spartanburg, South Carolina but spent her career working in the state of New York. She was my favorite aunt and took a special interest in me during my childhood and throughout my educational and early professional years. She was appointed as a Federal District Judge after having served on the State Circuit Court, Appellate Division and Court of Appeals in New York. Before that she worked as both a state prosecutor and municipal judge in Syracuse, New York. She was truly my idol. It was no coincidence that the start of my legal career in South Carolina in large part mirrored the start of her legal career in New York. She repeatedly told me that her ability to review all legal matters with an independent and unbiased eye is what served her best. I hope to use my own ability to do the same if given the opportunity on the Administrative Law Court.

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: _____