JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION Sworn Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings

Circuit Court (New Candidate)

Full Name:

Roger E. Henderson

Business Address:

PO Box 311

Chesterfield, SC 29709

Business Telephone:

(843) 623 3080

- 1. Why do you want to serve as a Circuit Court judge? I would like to serve as a Circuit Court Judge in order to broaden my realm of public service. I have spent the past thirteen years as a Family Court Judge and have drawn on my experiences as a general practitioner in that endeavor. I would now like to draw on my general practice experiences as well as my life experiences to serve as a Circuit Court Judge. I believe I can provide a valuable service to the State of South Carolina as a former trial lawyer who handled numerous civil and criminal matters.
- 2. Do you plan to serve your full term if elected? Yes
- 3. Do you have any plans to return to private practice one day?

 No. It is my desire to serve as a Circuit Court Judge until I retire, and upon my retirement, I hope to continue serving in this capacity on a part time basis.
- 4. Have you met the Constitutional requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice?

 Yes
- 5. What is your philosophy regarding ex parte communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision ex parte communications being tolerated? I make every effort to avoid ex parte communications. In the event an attorney or party contacts me I immediately advise them that I cannot discuss any matter until the other attorney or party is present. The only time I could envision an ex parte communication being tolerated is if there arose an extreme emergency situation in which an ex parte order was necessary to protect life or physical safety or preserve property.
- 6. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law partners are to appear before you?
 - Since I have been on the Family Court Bench for the past thirteen years, I no longer see a need to recuse myself when either my former

- law partner or my former associate are involved in a case unless the case involves one of my former clients. I do not recuse myself when lawyer-legislators appear before me.
- 7. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion?

 If my disclosure gave a reasonable appearance of bias, I would recuse myself. If the appearance of bias was totally unreasonable, or if a party were making the motion purely as a delay tactic, I would not recuse myself. I feel that it is very important for every party before me to feel that the Judge is totally impartial. If someone is convinced that I would be biased even if it is misconceived, they would never be satisfied with the outcome of the matter and in that situation, it would be best to recuse myself.
- 8. How would you handle the appearance of impropriety because of the financial or social involvement of your spouse or a close relative?

 I would not hear the matter.
- 9. What standards would you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality? I do not accept gifts from litigants or attorneys. I will attend social functions hosted by attorneys or an association of attorneys if all Judges are invited. I will accept ordinary social hospitality from close friends or relatives whose matters I would never hear.
- 10. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct of a lawyer or of a fellow judge? If there were no doubt in my mind of misconduct, I am required to report that misconduct to the proper authority or committee.
- 11. Are you affiliated with any political parties, boards or commissions that, if you were elected, would need to be re-evaluated?
 No.
- 12. Do you have any business activities that you would envision remaining involved with if elected to the bench?
 No.
- 13. If elected, how would you handle the drafting of orders?
 With the assistance of my law clerk, I would draft the orders. I can envision some circumstances in which it would be appropriate to request proposed orders from all parties involved.
- 14. If elected, what methods would you use to ensure that you and your staff meet deadlines?
 My secretary keeps a weekly file for each term of Court. She and I both track deadline dates in order to make sure that all deadlines are met. The tracking system is maintained on our computer and in hard

- copy form. This system has worked very well for the past thirteen years.
- 15. What is your philosophy on "judicial activism," and what effect should judges have in setting or promoting public policy?

 My philosophy is that Judges are not to be involved in matters that set or promote public policy. It is a Judge's function to apply the law to the facts of the case before him and to render his fair and impartial decision based on what the law is, not what he might think it should be. If for some reason a Judge receives a request to appear before a legislative committee concerning pending legislation, he should do so only after receiving permission from the Chief Justice.
- 16. Canon 4 allows a judge to engage in activities to improve the law, legal system, and administration of justice. If elected, what activities do you plan to undertake to further this improvement of the legal system? I plan to continue speaking to school groups and civic organizations concerning how the legal system operates. I plan to assist with Mock Trial Competitions and I will offer to serve on the Circuit Court Judge's Advisory Committee as I have served on the Family Court Judge's Advisory Committee.
- 17. Do you feel that the pressure of serving as a judge would strain personal relationships (i.e. spouse, children, friends, or relatives)? How would you address this? There could be times when serving as a Judge might strain personal relationships with friends. If they become too inquisitive about matters pending before the Court, the way I handle this situation is to explain to friends that I cannot discuss any matters pending before the Court with them or anyone else. Frankly, I have never felt that the pressure of serving as a Judge has strained my relationship with my wife, children or other relatives. I make every effort to leave my work problems at the Courthouse or my office and devote my time away from the office to my family.
- 18. The following list contains five categories of offenders that would perhaps regularly appear in your court. Discuss your philosophy on sentencing for these classes of offenders.
 - a. Repeat offenders:
 - They would need to be sentenced more severely than first time offenders. Since they are continuing to violate the law after having been given a chance previously, they would need to suffer more serious consequences in order to better protect the community.
 - b. Juveniles (that have been waived to the circuit court): The juveniles' age should be taken into account along with his or her maturity level in determining the sentence. As in all cases, the nature or gravity of the offenses must be taken into consideration, and the

sentence should be in accordance with the nature or gravity of the offense.

c. White collar criminals:

White collar criminals should be dealt with no differently than any other offenders. As stated above, the sentence should fit the nature and gravity of the offense.

d. Defendants with a socially and/or economically disadvantaged background:

The background of all defendants should be taken into consideration. The fact that one may be disadvantaged should not excuse the offense, but should be taken into consideration when someone is sentenced. Again, the seriousness of the crime committed should come into play along with the background considerations.

e. Elderly defendants or those with some infirmity:

These defendants may be given some additional consideration when incarceration is the likely sentence, depending on the extent of the infirmity and the person's age. However, as in all cases, the gravity of the offense may outweigh any consideration due someone because of their age or infirmity.

It is difficult to generalize an answer to these five categories as all cases have to be dealt with on an individual basis. Each case has it's own distinct set of facts, and the law should be applied accordingly. The type of sentence handed down must fit the circumstances of each case and should never be excessive.

- 19. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality? No
- 20. Would you hear a case where you or a member of your family held a de minimis financial interest in a party involved?
 No
- 21. Do you belong to any organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, or gender?
 No
- 22. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses?
 Yes
- 23. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge?
 I believe a Judge should be patient, courteous and dignified. He should ensure that proper decorum is maintained in his courtroom and that all proceedings are conducted in an efficient manner. There are times when a Judge must be firm, but this can be done in a courteous manner.

- 24. Would the rules that you expressed in your previous answer apply only while you are on the bench or in chambers, or would these rules apply seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day?

 These rules apply at all times. A Judge, because of his position, should always live his life in a very high standard and always display the proper demeanor and temperament.
- 25. Do you feel that it is ever appropriate to be angry with a member of the public, especially with a criminal defendant? Is anger ever appropriate in dealing with attorneys or pro se litigants? Anger is never appropriate in the Courtroom. If a Judge allows himself to become angry, he can no longer maintain proper decorum and loses his ability to think and reason. A Judge must be firm in order to maintain control of the Courtroom. One can be firm without being angry.
- 26. How much money have you spent on your campaign? \$ 243.41 If it is over \$100, has that amount been reported to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?

 Yes
- 27. If you are a sitting judge, have you used judicial letterhead or the services of your staff while campaigning for this office?

 No
- 28. Have you sought or received the pledge of any legislator prior to this date?

 No
- 29. Have you sought or been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening?

 No
- 30. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released?

No

Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?

- 31. Have you contacted any members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission?
 - I have emailed and mailed a letter of introduction to all members of the General Assembly. This is the only contact I have had with any members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.
- 32. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges for 48 hours after the draft report has been submitted? Yes

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

s/Roger E. Henderson

Sworn to before me this 9th day of September, 2008.

Notary Public for S.C.

My Commission Expires: 3/14/2010 _____

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court, At-Large, Seat 10

1. NAME: Mr. James Rezner Barber, III

BUSINESS ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2766, 1701 Main Street,

Room 223, Columbia, South Carolina 29202

E-MAIL ADDRESS: rezbarber@sccourts.org

BUSINESS NUMBER: (803) 576-1779

2. Date of Birth: 1943

Place of Birth: Birmingham, Alabama

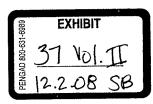
3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes.

Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes.

- 5. Family Status: Divorced September, 1978, Richland County Family Court, desertion. James R. Barber, III moving party. Married on March 9, 1979, to Susan Preston Foster Barber. I have three children.
- 6. Have you served in the military? No.
- 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) Washington & Lee University, 1962-1964;
 - (b) University of South Carolina, 1964-1966, B.A. Degree in Political Science;
 - (c) University of South Carolina School of Law, 1966-1969, Juris Doctor.
- 8. 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. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
 - South Carolina, 1969.
- 9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
 - (a) Sigma Alpha Epsilon Social Fraternity, 1965-1966;
 - (b) Intra-Fraternity Council, 1965-1966;
 - (c) Varsity Soccer Team, 1962-1963.
- 10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include **only** the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.

Conference/CLE Name

Date(s)



(a)	SCB 6th Annual Civil Law Update	1/25/08;
(b)	SCB 23rd Annual SC Criminal Law Update	1/25/08;
(c)	JBOIC The Future of Legal Education	11/13/07;
(d)	SCCA 2007 Annual Judicial Conference	8/22/07;
(e)	SCCJC Judges Conference	5/16/07;
(f)	SCB 22nd Annual Criminal Law Update	1/26/07;
(g)	SCB 5th Annual Civil Law Update	1/26/07;
(h)	JBOIC History of the Inns of Court	9/19/06;
(i)	SCCA 2006 Annual Judicial Conference	8/23/06;
(j)	JBOIC New Court Developments	2/21/06;
(k)	SCB 21st Annual Criminal Law Update	1/27/06;
(1)	SCB 4th Annual Civil Law Update	1/27/06;
(m)	JBOIC Highlights of the 2005 Revision to	11/15/05;
(n)	JBOIC South Carolina Legal History	9/20/05;
(o)	SCCA 2005 Annual Judicial Conference	8/24/05;
(p)	SCCJC 2005 Circuit Court Judges Conference	5/11/05;
(q)	SCB 20th Annual Criminal Law Update	1/21/05;
(r)	SCP 20th Annual Civil Law Update	1/21/05;
(s)	SCCA Seminar for Chief Judges for	12/10/04;
(t)	NJC Advanced Evidence	11/14/04;
(u)	SCB How to Manage Work in the	10/08/04;
(v)	SupCt Judicial Oath of Office	8/19/04;
(w)	JBOIC Revised Lawyer's Oath	9/21/04;
(x)	SCCA Judicial Conference	8/19/04;
(y)	SCB Cruise - Eminent Domain	7/3/04;
(z)	SCACJ 2004 Circuit Judges Conference	5/05/04;
(aa)	SCB 2nd Annual Civil Law Update	1/2304;
(bb)	SCB 19th Annual Criminal Law Update	1/23/04;
(cc)	SCB 2nd Annual Civil Law Update	1/23/04;
(dd)	SCCA Judicial Conference	8/21/03;
(ee)	SCAJC 2003 SC Circuit Judges Conference	5/07/03;
(ff)	JBOIC Ethical Considerations	2/25/03;
(gg)	JBOIC Legal Jeopardy	1/28/03;
(hh)	SCB 18th Annual Criminal Law Update	1/24/03.

- 11. 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 was an instructor at the University of South Carolina College of Applied Science;
 - (b) I taught Business Law to undergraduate students which primarily covered contracts;
 - (c) I have participated in a number of legal seminars as a speaker on various topics.

- 12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. None.
- 13. 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.

All State Courts in South Carolina, 1969;

United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, 1969; United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, 1969;

Supreme Court of the United States of America, 1995.

- 14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
 - (a) 2/70-10/72

United States Department of Justice, Internal Security Division, Washington, DC

Initially I was employed in the Foreign Agents Registration Section which had the responsibility for enforcing the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The work was primarily administrative and regulatory. I then moved to the Special Litigation Section. The work involved grand jury, United States District Court and Circuit Court of Appeals practice throughout the United States. It was primarily a criminal practice arising out of anti-Vietnam war criminal activities by various individuals and groups. I also handled Selective Service evasion cases in various courts.

- (b) 10/72-8/77
 Law Office of Henry H. Edens, Columbia, South Carolina
 This was a two-person office which was primarily engaged in civil litigation practice, a substantial portion of which was workers' compensation, personal injury and domestic practice. We did practice
- some criminal law.
- (c) 8/77-6/97

Todd & Barber, PC, Columbia, South Carolina (successor to the firm of Marchant, Bates, Todd & Barber)

I have engaged in a practice of administrative, domestic, corporate, real estate and workers' compensation law.

(d) 7/97-present

SC Court Administration, Circuit Court Judge, Columbia, South Carolina.

- 15. What is your rating in Martindale-Hubbell? AV.
- 22. Have you ever held judicial office?

 Circuit Court Judge; July, 1997-present; The highest general jurisdiction trial court in South Carolina.
- 23. If the answer to question 22 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) Susan Olson v. Faculty House of Carolina, Inc. 354 S.C. 161, 580 S.E.2d 440 (S.C. 2003);
- (b) Sharon B. Koon v. Soraya Farid Fares and Dr. Marie A. Faltas 2008 WL 3821314;
- (c) <u>The State v. Gary A. White</u> 372 S.C. 364, 642 S.E.2d 607 (Ct. App. 2007);
- (d) <u>Linda Gail Marcum v. Donald Mayon Bowden</u> 372 S.C. 452, 643 S.E.2d 85 (S.C. 2007);
- (e) <u>City of Camden v. Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Inc.</u> 372 S.C. 543, 643 S.E.2d 687.
- 24. 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. Yes.
 - (a) Richland County Council 1977-1986 (Elected);
 - (b) Richland Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees 1990-1994 (Appointed by Governor Carroll Campbell).
- 25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or parttime, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. None.
- 26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? Yes.
 - (a) I ran unsuccessfully in the Democratic Primary for the office of Lt. Governor in 1986;
 - (b) I ran unsuccessfully for At Large Circuit Court Seat No. 13 in 1996.
- 27. 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? Yes.
 - I was a principal in a title insurance agency. I am a licensed real estate broker.
- 28. 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.
- 29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
- 30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships that you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.
 - I recuse myself from all legal matters involving my former law firm.
- 31. 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
- 32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.
- 33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy. No.
- 34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally? I was sued in my capacity as a County Councilman for Richland County on several occasions. I, along with the other Council members serving at the time of the lawsuits, was named as a defendant. The cases primarily involved zoning matters or employment matters.
- 36. 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.
- 37. 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? No.
- 38. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. No.
- 39. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None.
- 40. 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. None.
- 41. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship. None.
- 42. 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? 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? No.

- 43. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No.
- 44. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.
- 45. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? No.
- 46. 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) Richland County Bar Association;
 - (b) South Carolina Bar Association.
- 47. 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, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.
 - (a) University of South Carolina Alumni Association.
- 48. Provide any other information which 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.
 - (a) Order of the Palmetto, 1986;
 - (b) Recipient of President's Cup for distinguished service to South Carolina Association of Counties, 1981:
 - (c) Named honorary President of South Carolina Association of Counties, 1986.

49. References:

- (a) Mr. Thomas E. Collins26 Mahalo LaneColumbia, South Carolina 29204(803) 765-0113 (h)
- (b) Mr. Culver P. Choate
 National Bank of South Carolina
 1241 Main Street
 Columbia, South Carolina 29201
 (803) 929-2097 (o)
- (c) Mr. Walter B. Todd P.O. Box 1549 Columbia, South Carolina 29202 (803) 779-4383 (o)
- (d) Mr. William Z. Cannon 1901 Main Street, Suite 650

Columbia, South Carolina 29201 (803) 251-7126 (o)

(e) Mr. Thomas E. Suggs 12 Dill Court Columbia, South Carolina 29204 (803) 799-3377 (h)

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.

s/ James Rezner Barber, III

Date: 09/12/08

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION Sworn Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings

Circuit Court (Incumbent)

Full Name:

James Rezner Barber, III

Business Address:

Post Office Box 2766

1701 Main Street, Room 223

Columbia, South Carolina 29202-2766

Business Telephone:

(803) 576-1779

- Why do you want to serve another term as a Circuit Court Judge?
 I have enjoyed the eleven years I have served as a Circuit Court Judge. The work is rewarding and I would like to continue serving.
- Do you plan to serve your full term if re-elected?
- 3. Do you have any plans to return to private practice one day? I have no plans at this time.
- 4. Have you met the Constitutional requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice?
 Yes
- 5. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?
 - I do not permit *ex parte* communications except if it is authorized by law or it involves scheduling or an emergency and it does not involve substantial matters and no party gains an advantage. I promptly inform other parties of any communications.
 - I have had *ex parte* communications to attempt to settle or mediate cases in which all parties have consented.
- 6. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law partners are to appear before you?
 - I recuse myself in all cases involving former law partners or associates. I generally do not believe it is necessary to recuse myself when lawyer-legislators appear before me.
- 7. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion?
 - I would strongly consider the request for recusal and would most likely grant the motion even though technically I might not be required to recuse myself.

- 8. How would you handle the appearance of impropriety because of the financial or social involvement of your spouse or a close relative?I would advise all parties of any problems or possible conflicts and would likely recuse myself from the matter.
- What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?
 I do not accept gifts or social hospitality except as permitted by the Canons of Judicial Ethics.
- How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct of a lawyer or of a fellow judge?
 I believe I am required to report any misconduct to the Commission on Judicial Conduct or the Commission on Lawyer Conduct.
- 11. Are you affiliated with any political parties, boards or commissions that, if you were re-elected, would need to be re-evaluated?
 No
- 12. Do you have any business activities that you would envision remaining involved with if reelected to the bench?I intend to keep my real estate broker's license. It is presently in inactive status.
- 13. How do you handle the drafting of orders?

 Generally, I request the prevailing attorney to prepare the order and require the attorney that prepares the proposed order to submit it to opposing counsel for review prior to being sent to me. Sometimes I will request proposed orders from all parties. Occasionally I will, with the help of my law clerk, prepare the order.
- 14. What methods do you use to ensure that you and your staff meet deadlines?A log/tickler system is maintained. We also have a calendar system which tracts deadlines.
- 15. What is your philosophy on "judicial activism," and what effect should judges have in setting or promoting public policy?

 I do not believe "judicial activism" is appropriate. Elected officials set public policy, not courts.
- 16. Canon 4 allows a judge to engage in activities to improve the law, legal system, and administration of justice. What activities do you plan to undertake to further this improvement of the legal system? I have participated as a speaker/lecturer at various Bar and Judges meetings and seminars during my term on the bench. I plan to continue that practice.
 - I have also spoken to classes at schools and other civic groups about our legal system. In addition, I communicate with the Chief Justice any suggestions I have concerning improvements to our system.

17. Do you feel that the pressure of serving as a judge strains personal relationships (i.e. spouse, children, friends, or relatives)? How do you address this?

No

- 18. The following list contains five categories of offenders that would perhaps regularly appear in your court. Discuss your philosophy on sentencing for these classes of offenders.
 - a. Repeat offenders:

A prior record and history of a defendant is very important to me when sentencing. I generally believe repeat offenders should receive a more severe sentence.

- b. Juveniles (that have been waived to the circuit court):
 Age is an important factor when sentencing. The State of South
 Carolina has sentences that are tailored for young offenders (Youthful
 Offender Program, Shock Incarceration, conditions of probation) and
 those programs should be considered.
- c. White collar criminals:

I do not believe white collar criminals should be given favorable consideration.

d. Defendants with a socially and/or economically disadvantaged background:

As with a person's record and age I believe a defendant's social and/or economic background are factors to be considered. However because an individual is socially prominent or economically advantaged should not put that person in a better position than someone who is disadvantaged.

- e. Elderly defendants or those with some infirmity:
 Age and infirmities are factors that should be considered with all
 defendants. However, just because someone is elderly or infirmed
 does not mean that person will be given a lenient sentence.
- 19. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality? No
- Would you hear a case where you or a member of your family held a de minimis financial interest in a party involved?I would likely recuse myself rather than create an appearance of impropriety.
- 21. Do you belong to any organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, or gender?
 No
- 22. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses?
 Yes
- 23. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge?

A judge must always present himself/herself as a person who is fair and impartial to all sides in a matter. The judge must be a person who is patient, even tempered, courteous and dignified to all whom the judge deals in his/her capacity as a judge.

- 24. Do the rules that you expressed in your previous answer apply only while you are on the bench or in chambers, or do these rules apply seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day?

 The rules apply at all times.
- 25. Do you feel that it is ever appropriate to be angry with a member of the public, especially with a criminal defendant? Is anger ever appropriate in dealing with attorneys or a pro se litigant?

 Anger is never appropriate.
- 26. How much money have you spent on your campaign? If it is over \$100, has that amount been reported to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?

 None.
- 27. While campaigning for this office, have you used judicial letterhead or the services of your staff for your campaign?
- 28. Have you sought or received the pledge of any legislator prior to this date?
- 29. Have you sought or been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? No
- 30. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?

 No
- 31. Have you contacted any members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission?

 No
- 32. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges for 48 hours after the draft report has been submitted? Yes

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

s/James Rezner Barber, III

Sworn to before me this 12th day of September, 2008.

Notary Public for South Carolina

My commission expires: 6/26/2017

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Richland County, Master-In-Equity

1. NAME:

Mr. Joseph Monroe Strickland

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

Post Office Box 192

Columbia, SC 29202-0192

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

stricklandi@rcgov.us

BUSINESS NUMBER:

(803) 576-1903

2. Date of Birth:

1955

Place of Birth:

Abbeville, S.C.

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.

- 5. Family Status: Married on May 6, 1995, to Karen Ann Grogan Strickland. Never divorced. One child.
- 6. Have you served in the military?

Dates and Details of Service

Rank

1977 through 1985

1st Lieutenant

United States Army Reserve

Resigned Commission in 1997. Honorable Discharge.

Serial Number: XXX-XX-XXXX

- 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) Princeton University, AB Degree 1973-1977;
 - (b) Vanderbilt University School of Law, JD Degree 1977-1978, 1979-1981.
- 8. 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. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

District of Columbia, 1984; South Carolina, 1985. I took the bar exam but was never admitted in New York. I took the bar exam in the District of Columbia three times. I passed the South Carolina bar exam upon the first attempt.

9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

Princeton University Activity

Dates

EXHIBIT

(a) Vice-President of the Undergraduate
 Student Government
 1976-1977;
 (b) Army ROTC Corps Adjutant
 1975-1977;

 Saxophone player in the Triangle Club Orchestra and the University Jazz Ensemble.
 Vanderbilt University School of Law Activity

Vanderbilt University School of Law Activity Dates
University Committee on Alumni Education 1979-1981;

(b) Black Law Student's Regional Moot Court Team 1981 Winner of "Best Brief" Award.

10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include **only** the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.

I have attended all mandatory CLE and have exceeded judicial CLE requirements.

•	Conference/CLE Name	Date	
(a)	Master-In-Equity Annual Statewide Meeting	January, 2003;	
(b)	Judicial Conference	August, 2003;	
(c)	Mortgage Foreclosure Seminar	August, 2003;	
(d)	Civility and Professionalism Seminar	September, 2003;	
(e)	Matthew J. Perry Symposium	April, 2004;	
(f)	Master-In-Equity Annual Meeting	February, 2004;	
(g)	Judicial Conference	August,2004;	
(h)	Revised Lawyer's Oath CLE (JBOIC)	August, 2004;	
(i)	Judicial Oath of Office Seminar	August, 2004;	
(j)	Master-In-Equity/Bench-Bar	October, 2004;	
(k)	Master-In-Equity Annual Meeting	February, 2005;	
(1)	Master-In-Equity/Bench-Bar	October, 2005;	
(m)	Class Actions Seminar	October, 2005;	
(n)	Annual Judicial Conference	August, 2006;	
(o)	Master-in-Equity Bench-Bar	October, 2006;	
(p)	Judicial Conference	August, 2007;	
(q)	Foreclosure and Bankruptcy	September, 2007;	
(r)	John Belton O'Neall Inn of Court	September, 2007;	
(s)	Master-in-Equity Bench-Bar	October, 2007;	
(t)	South Carolina Women Lawyers Ethics Update	February, 2008;	
(u)	Master-in-Equity Annual Meeting	March, 2008;	
(v)	Judicial Conference	August, 2008.	
I have fully appealed with indicial antiquing land adverting an indicate			

I have fully complied with judicial continuing legal education requirements.

In 1992, JCLE requirements were waived due to budget constraints. I would have complied anyway due to hours carried over from attendance at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada in 1990 and 1991.

11. 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)

- (a) Guest Lecturer "Bridge the Gap", 1994-present;
- (b) Guest Lecturer USC Law School, Courses in Legislation, Fall 1989 and Fall 1990;
- (c) SC Trial and Appellate Practice, Fall 1992.
- 12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
 - (a) Op-Ed piece, The State, June 18, 1997;
 - (b) Op-Ed piece, The Columbia Record, late 1980's, unable to locate.
- 13. 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.

	Court	Date
(a)	District of Columbia Court of Appeals	June 25, 1984;
(b)	Supreme Court of South Carolina	November 21, 1985;
(c)	U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit	July 29, 1985;
(d)	U.S. District Court, District of S.C.	January 3, 1986;
(e)	U.S. Supreme Court	June 27, 1997.

14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.

The undersigned candidate graduated from Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey in 1977 which is ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the nation's best national universities. In 1981, the undersigned graduated from the Vanderbilt University School of Law in Nashville, Tennessee, which is ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the nation's best law schools.

My first job after law school was in the United States Senate. I was appointed Second Assistant Parliamentarian by the Secretary of the Senate upon the recommendation of the majority leader, The Honorable Howard H. Baker, Jr. This job facilitated exposure to the legislative process. I became an expert on the rules and procedures of the United States Senate. Sometimes, I helped Senators and staff draft legislation to comply with procedural requirements. I referred all bills and communications from the President to the appropriate committee on behalf of the Vice-President, who is the President of the Senate. I left the job to work for a few months as an assistant to a member of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. In 1984, my next job was in Columbia, South Carolina as a Clerk for U.S. District Judge Matthew J. Perry, Jr. This job facilitated exposure to many aspects of the federal judicial system. I prepared the Judge for hearings, trials, sentencing hearings, and pleas in civil and criminal cases. Serving as a law clerk for a federal judge is the best preparation for future service on the bench that I know. Most members of the Bar do not have this credential.

Nelson, Mullins, Riley and Scarborough offered me a job while I was clerking for Judge Perry. The firm had 50 lawyers when I joined as an associate in 1985. There, I practiced primarily in the area of products liability and commercial litigation. Much of my time was spent on a massive toxic tort case involving AT&T Nassau Metals. More than 300 plaintiffs complained of health problems from fumes emanating from a metal recycling plant. Later, I spent a lot of time working on a series of cases brought against CFW Construction Company, Inc. involving alleged bid rigging and alleged violations of federal anti-trust law. Some of my time was devoted to smaller breach of warranty cases for General Motors Corporation. During my last year with the firm, I focused on defending claims brought before the Workers' Compensation Commission. I worked at the firm until 1989.

As Master-In-Equity, I can hear any civil non-jury case. I've been exposed to commercial contract disputes, environmental cases, labor law cases, and a wide variety of foreclosure and real estate cases. As Special Circuit Court Judge, I hear motions in jury cases and generally assist with the non-jury docket.

I have passed bar examinations in Washington, DC and South Carolina. Most attorneys are not licensed in multiple jurisdictions.

- 15. What is your rating in <u>Martindale-Hubbell?</u> I was an associate at Nelson, Mullins, Riley and Scarborough, which is an AV rated firm.
- 22. Have you ever held judicial office?

The undersigned was appointed Master-In-Equity for Richland County on July 17, 1989 by Governor Carroll A. Campbell, Jr. with the advice and consent of the S.C. General Assembly. I have since been reappointed by Governor David Beasley and Governor Mark Sanford, with the advice and consent of the S.C. General Assembly. The Master-In-Equity is a division of Circuit Court and can hear any civil non-jury case referred by a Circuit Judge. In 1994, I was appointed Special Circuit Court Judge by order of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to hear motions in jury cases and generally assist with the non-jury docket, approve minor settlements, accept grand jury returns and other matters.

- 23. If the answer to question 22 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) Wolf v. Colonial Life and Accident Insurance Company 1990, Master-In-Equity, 420 S.E. 2d 217 (S.C. App. 1992);
 - (b) Reilly v. Smith 1995, Master-In-Equity;
 - (c) <u>State v. Derrick</u> 1995, Special Circuit Court Judge Appellate Decision;
 - (d) Mahon v. Chesoni 1992, Master-In-Equity, Unpublished Opinion No. 94-UO-102 (S.C. App. 1994);

- (e) NAB v. Corbin 1996, Master-In-Equity.
- 24. 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?
 - (a) Appointed Member, Richland County Planning Commission, 1986-1987;
 - (b) Appointed Member, S.C. Jobs Economic Development Authority, 1987-1989;
 - (c) Elected Member, S.C. Republican Party Executive Committee, 1987-1989.

I have always timely filed my report with the State Ethics Commission during the period I have held public office.

- 25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or parttime, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. None.
- 26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.
 - (a) In 2006, I was an unsuccessful candidate for S.C. Circuit Court Judge.;
 - (b) In 2001, I was an unsuccessful candidate for S.C. Circuit Court Judge.;
 - (c) In 1998, I was an unsuccessful candidate for S.C. Circuit Court Judge and U.S. Magistrate.
- 27. 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. No.
- 28. 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.
- 29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
- 30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships that you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. None.
- 31. 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? No.

- 32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.
- 33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No.
- 34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally?
 I have been sued several times in my life. All cases were frivolous and were dismissed. In 1987, I was part of a group of people sued in the Court of Common Pleas in conjunction with the Richland County Republican Convention. I was a candidate for the State Executive Committee and my opponent was one of the Plaintiffs. Judge Ralph King Anderson dismissed the action pursuant to Rule 12(b)6, SCRCP. The Complaint alleged I discriminated against Black people and violated the Voting Rights Act of 1965. All of the Plaintiffs were White.

In 1992, a disgruntled former employee sued me in Federal Court. She had been terminated two years earlier and claimed I discriminated against her because she is Black and caused her to suffer mental illness, among other things. Judge Dennis Shedd granted my Motion for Summary Judgment on nine causes of action. The Insurance Reserve Fund negotiated a settlement of the tenth cause of action, a claim of retaliation.

In 1995, disgruntled litigants who had exhausted their appeals in State Court sued me in Federal Court. The litigants claimed, among other things, they were discriminated against because they were Black because I ruled against them in a Partition lawsuit brought by one of their relatives. Judge Dennis Shedd dismissed the case pursuant to Rule 12(b)6, FRCP.

In recent years, several disgruntled Litigants in foreclosure cases have sued me. All cases were dismissed.

- 36. 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.
- 37. 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? No.
- 38. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None.
- 39. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal

- allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None.
- 40. 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. None.
- 41. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship. None.
- 42. 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? 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? No.
- 43. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? If so, give details. Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No.
- 44. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.
- 45. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? No.
- 46. 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 Master-In-Equity Judges Association Vice President (2006-2008)
 President (2008-2010);
 - (b) District of Columbia Bar Association;
 - (c) Richland County Bar Association;
 - (d) South Carolina Bar Association;
 - (e) Columbia Lawyer's Association;
 - (f) South Carolina Black Lawyer's Association;
 - (g) National Bar Association;
 - (h) American Bar Association;
 - (i) South Carolina Association of Women Lawyers.
- 47. 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, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.
 - (a) Lifetime Member, NAACP;
 - (b) Member, The Palmetto Club of Columbia.
- 48. Provide any other information which 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. Resume' attached.

49. References:

- (a) Ms. Mary Lynne Diggs 1520 Senate Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803) 254-4470
- (b) Mr. Scott Merrill c/o Bank of America Plaza 1901 Main Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803) 255-7549
- (c) Mrs. Ada James 904 E. Campanella Drive Columbia, SC 29203 (803) 576-1773
- (d) Mr. King B.L. Jeffcoat 4101 Grand Street Columbia, SC 29203 (803) 786-6606
- (e) Rev. Furman Buchanan 6419 Bridgewood Road Forest Acres, SC 29206 (803) 738-9058

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.

S/ Joseph Monroe Strickland

Date: 09/18/08

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION Sworn Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings

Master-in-Equity (Incumbent)

Full Name:

Joseph Monroe Strickland

Business Address:

Post Office Box 192

Columbia, SC 29202-0192

Business Telephone:

(803) 576-1903

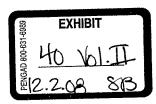
Do you plan to serve your full term if re-appointed?
 Yes

2. Do you have any plans to return to private practice one day?

3. Have you met the Constitutional requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice?

Yes

- 4. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?
 - I simply don't allow ex parte communications. In case of an emergency request for a TRO, an ex parte communication may have to be allowed.
- 5. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law partners are to appear before you?
 - I recuse myself in cases of actual conflict or to avoid the appearance of impropriety.
- 6. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion?
 - I would give great deference to a party requesting recusal and I would grant the motion.
- 7. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?
 - I do not accept gifts. However, I do attend parties and receptions sponsored by the Bar or law firms.
- 8. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct of a lawyer or of a judge?
 - I would notify the appropriate authority as I have done in the past.



9. Are you affiliated with any political parties, boards or commissions that need to be re-evaluated?

No

10. Have you engaged in any fund-raising activities with any political, social, community, or religious organizations?

No

- 11. How do you handle the drafting of orders?

 Generally, I ask counsel to submit proposed orders in contested matters. I draft some administrative orders.
- 12. What methods do you use to ensure that you and your staff meet deadlines?

I use a "suspense" system. All deadlines are noted and met.

13. What is your philosophy on "judicial activism," and what effect should judges have in setting or promoting public policy?

A trial court judge cannot make law or promote public policy.

- 14. Canon 4 allows a judge to engage in activities to improve the law, legal system, and administration of justice. What activities do you plan to undertake to further this improvement of the legal system? I will continue to speak at continuing legal education seminars, assist in Mock trial competitions, and answer questions from citizens in one-on-one conversations.
- 15. Do you feel that the pressure of serving as a judge strains personal relationships (i.e. spouse, children, friends, or relatives)? How do you address this?

No. My spouse, child, friends and relatives are very supportive.

16. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality?

17. Would you hear a case where you or a member of your family held a *de minimis* financial interest in a party involved?

No

18. Do you belong to any organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, or gender?

No

19. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses?

Yes

- 20. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge? A judge should practice common courtesy to all people he comes in contact with in or out of court.
- 21. Would the rules that you expressed in your previous answer apply only while you are on the bench or in chambers, or do these rules apply seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day?

My answer to question #20 is how I live my life.

- 22. Do you feel that it is ever appropriate to be angry with a member of the public who would appear before you? Is anger ever appropriate in dealing with attorneys or a pro se litigant?
 I would recuse myself if I became angry with a party or an attorney. Personally, I could not be fair if I ruled in anger.
- 23. How much money have you spent on your campaign? If it is over \$100, has that amount been reported to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?

Less than \$100.

24. While campaigning for this office, have you used judicial letterhead or the services of your staff for your campaign?

A member of my staff faxed the acknowledgement of application form to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission.

25. Have you sought or received the pledge of any legislator prior to this date?

No

26. Have you sought or been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening?

No

27. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?

No

28. Have you contacted any members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission?

No

29. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges for 48 hours after the draft report has been submitted?

Yes

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

s/Joseph Monroe Strickland

Sworn to before me this 19th day of September, 2008.

Notary Public for S.C.

My commission expires: 7/09/2018