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November 5, 2015

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & FACSIMILE:

The Honorable Terry McAuliffe
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & EMAIL:

The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Co-Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Senate
P.O. Box 6205
Williamsburg, Virginia 23188

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & EMAIL:

The Honorable Mark D. Obenshain
Co-Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Senate
P.O. Box 555
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22803

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL & EMAIL:

The Honorable David T. Albo
Chair, Courts of Justice
House of Delegates
6367 Rolling Mill Place, Suite 102
Springfield, Virginia 22152

Re: Anticipated Vacancy in the Arlington County Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

Dear Governor McAuliffe, Senator Norment, Senator Obenshain, and Delegate Albo:

On behalf of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association ("VWAA"), a regional committee ("the Committee"), was impaneled to evaluate candidates for an anticipated vacancy on the Arlington County Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court occasioned by the retirement of the Honorable Esther L. Wiggins.

The VWAA requested that interested candidates complete the VWAA Judicial Questionnaire (the "Application"), submit a short biography, and participate in an oral interview with the Committee. Prior to the interviews, members of the Committee contacted the references listed on each candidate's Application as well as other members of the local bar and legal community to inquire as to each candidate's suitability for the vacancy. On October 5, 2015, the Committee interviewed eleven (11) candidates.

It is worth noting that the VWAA ratings are based upon a review of each candidate's merits against published standards and guidelines, including the following: fairness, integrity, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, and *pro bono* service. Ratings are not a function of a general vote by the VWAA membership nor are they a comparison of candidates within the "pool" presented.

The following rating categories are used by the VWAA:

- (1) NOT QUALIFIED: Applied to any applicant who fails to meet the minimum requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, integrity and/or other basic criteria set forth in the ABA Guidelines.
- (2) QUALIFIED: Applied to any applicant who meets the minimum requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, integrity and/or other basic criteria set forth in the ABA Guidelines.
- (3) RECOMMENDED: Applied to applicants whose qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements to warrant the Committee's affirmative recommendation.
- (4) HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: Reserved for any candidate who is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation.

The VWAA's procedures provide that ratings of "Qualified" and "Recommended" require a vote in support by at least a simple majority of the Committee. A rating of "Highly Recommended" requires a vote in support by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting. In order for the Committee to find that a candidate fails to meet the minimum qualifications and is "Not Qualified," at least two-thirds of those voting must so find.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the VWAA has approved, in accordance with its procedures, the following endorsements of the Committee for this judicial vacancy:

William Michael Chick, Jr., Esquire is found *highly recommended*.
Daniel Tomas Crowe Lopez, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.
Robin L. Robb, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.
Jason S. Rucker, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.

Sharon F. Gustafson, Esquire is found *recommended*.
Gina L. Marine, Esquire is found *recommended*.
Jason L. McCandless, Esquire is found *recommended*.

Mark D. Cummings, Esquire is found *qualified*.
Mina J. Ketchie, Esquire is found *qualified*.
Suyong Min, Esquire is found *qualified*.
Andrew R. Parker, Esquire is found *qualified*.

Executive summaries of the qualifications of each of the above candidates are attached to this letter.

For your further information, the Committee members participating in the interview process were as follows:

Diana H. D'Alessandro, Esquire: Ms. D'Alessandro is an associate with the law firm of Pesner Kawamoto PLC. She focuses her practice on general civil litigation and practices regularly in the circuit and general district courts throughout Northern Virginia. Prior to joining Pesner Kawamoto, Ms. D'Alessandro served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable David S. Schell of the Fairfax Circuit Court for two years. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2010.

Carly A. Jehlen, Esquire: Ms. Jehlen is a partner with the law firm of McGlone & Jehlen, P.C. She focuses her practice in criminal defense litigation, including traffic offenses, criminal misdemeanors and felonies, juvenile matters, protective orders. She practices regularly in the circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts throughout Northern Virginia. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2010.

Michelle Kaminsky, Esquire: Ms. Kaminsky is a partner with The Law Offices of Kelly S. Hite, PLLC. She focuses her practice on family law and domestic relations litigation, including divorce, custody and visitation, child support, grandparent/third party visitation and custody, spousal support, equitable distribution, and adoption. She practices regularly in the circuit and juvenile and domestic relations district courts throughout Northern Virginia. Prior to joining The Law Offices of Kelly S. Hite, PLLC, Ms. Kaminsky served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable David S. Schell. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2009.

Jennifer Leffler, Esquire: Ms. Leffler is a partner at the law firm of LefflerPhillips, PLC. She focuses her practice in criminal defense litigation, including traffic offenses, criminal misdemeanors and felonies, juvenile matters, protective orders, domestic assault and battery, and probation violations. She practices regularly in the circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts throughout Northern Virginia. Ms. Leffler is a former Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County and a former judicial law clerk to the Honorable Jane M. Roush. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2009.

Martha JP McQuade, Esquire: Ms. McQuade is a partner with the law firm of McQuade Byrum, PLLC. She focuses her practice in family law and domestic relations litigation, including divorce, custody and visitation, child support, spousal support, and equitable distribution. Ms. McQuade practices regularly in the circuit and juvenile and domestic relations district courts throughout Northern Virginia. Ms. McQuade is a past member of the State Board of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 1990.

K. Leigh Taylor, Esquire: Ms. Taylor is a partner at The Susan Hicks Group, PC. She focuses her practice in family law and domestic relations litigation, including divorce, custody and visitation, child support, spousal support, and equitable distribution. Ms. Taylor practices regularly in the circuit and juvenile and domestic relations district courts throughout Northern Virginia. Ms. Taylor is the current Membership Chair of the State Board of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association as well as a past President of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2003.

Julia A. Yolles, Esquire: Ms. Yolles is an associate with The Havrilak Law Firm, P.C. She focuses her practice on family law and domestic relations litigation, including divorce, child custody and visitation, child support, spousal support, juvenile law, and abuse and neglect. Ms. Yolles practices regularly in the circuit and juvenile and domestic relations courts throughout Northern Virginia. She is a former Arlington County court clerk. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2011.

We hope that this information will prove helpful to you during your selection process for this very important judicial position. Please feel free to contact VWAA President Betsy Sue Scott should you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully yours,



Diana H. D'Alessandro
Judicial Chair, Northern Virginia Chapter
Virginia Women Attorneys Association

Enclosures: Executive Summary of William Michael Chick, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Daniel Tomas Crowe Lopez, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Robin L. Robb, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Jason S. Rucker, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Sharon F. Gustafson, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Gina L. Marine, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Jason L. McCandless, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Mark D. Cummings, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Mina Ketchie, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Suyong Min, Esquire
 Executive Summary of Andrew R. Parker, Esquire

CC (by email only): William Michael Chick, Jr., Esquire
 Daniel Tomas Crowe Lopez, Esquire
 Robin L. Robb, Esquire
 Jason S. Rucker, Esquire
 Sharon F. Gustafson, Esquire
 Gina L. Marine, Esquire
 Jason L. McCandless, Esquire
 Mark D. Cummings, Esquire

Mina J. Ketchie, Esquire
Suyong Min, Esquire
Andrew R. Parker, Esquire

CC (by email only): Senator Adam Ebbin
Senator Barbara Favola
Senator David Marsden
Senator George L. Barker
Senator J. Chapman Petersen
Senator Janet D. Howell
Senator Linda T. Puller
Senator Jennifer T. Wexton
Senator Richard L. Saslaw
Delegate Alfonso Lopez
Delegate Barbara Comstock
Delegate David Albo
Delegate David Bulova
Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn
Delegate James LeMunyon
Delegate Charniele L. Herring
Delegate Robert J. Krupicka, Jr.
Delegate Kenneth R. Plum
Delegate Patrick A. Hope
Delegate L. Kaye Kory
Delegate Mark D. Sickles
Delegate Mark. L. Keam
Delegate Marcus B. Simon
Delegate Richard C. Sullivan, Jr.
Delegate Timothy D. Hugo
Delegate Scott A. Surovell
Delegate Thomas Davis Rust
Delegate Vivian E. Watts

CC (by email only): Michelle Kaminsky, Esquire
Jennifer Leffler, Esquire
Martha JP McQuade, Esquire
K. Leigh Taylor, Esquire
Julia A. Yolles, Esquire
Carly Jehlen, Esquire

Betsy Sue Scott, Esquire, VWAA President
Chandra Lantz, Co-Chair of VWAA's Judiciary Committee
Camille Allan Crandall, VWAA, Northern Virginia Chapter, President

WILLIAM MICHAEL CHICK, JR.

Experience and Legal Ability: William Michael Chick, Jr. earned his Juris Doctor from George Washington University Law School in 2005. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2005.

Mr. Chick began his career at the Office of the Public Defender for the City and County of Fairfax, Virginia, where he handled hundreds of criminal matters and was routinely exposed to the Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court. As an Assistant Public Defender II, he handled, among other things, detention hearings, detention reviews, transfer hearings, adjudication hearings, and disposition hearings. He worked closely with the Juvenile & Domestic Relations probation office, parole officers from the DJJ, and the juvenile intake office. Over the course of his career as an Assistant Public Defender, he represented thousands of clients, and during that time, he became keenly aware of the human element to the judicial process. He believes that everyone who comes before the court must be heard and treated with dignity, respect and compassion.

Following a successful career as an Assistant Public Defender, Mr. Chick joined the law firm of Greenspun Shapiro in December of 2008. His practice continued to focus on criminal defense in Virginia state and federal courts, and he handled many high-profile and complex criminal litigation matters throughout all stages of the proceedings. In October of 2010, Mr. Chick joined the Capital Defender's Office for Northern Virginia as a Deputy/Assistant Capital Defender, where he exclusively represented capital murder defendants. In March of 2012, Mr. Chick founded the Law Offices of W. Michael Chick, Jr., PLLC in Fairfax, Virginia where he presently serves as a solo practitioner. His practice focuses on capital murder defense and other serious crimes.

Mr. Chick is active in the legal community and is a member of the Arlington Bar Association, Fairfax Bar Association, George Mason Inn of Court, and the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. He also serves as a volunteer trial advocacy coach for the George Mason University Law School, a guest speaker for the Chantilly High School senior law class, and a Fairfax Bar Association volunteer court tour guide for high school students.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Ms. Chick demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Chick possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Chick is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

DANIEL TOMAS CROWE LOPEZ

Experience and Legal Ability: Daniel Tomas Crowe Lopez earned his Juris Doctor from the George Washington University School of Law in 1996. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1996.

Mr. Lopez is a former Public Defender for Fairfax County, Virginia where he represented indigent defendants for five years. In 2002, he co-founded the law firm of Lopez, Meleen & Sprano, PLC, and in 2009, he joined the law firm of Briglia Hundley, PC, in Vienna, Virginia as a partner. His practice consists primarily of criminal defense in which he represents a significant number of Latino immigrants and second generation Latinos. He has been on the Fairfax County court appointed list for twelve years and is certified by the Indigent Defense Commission to handle felony defense cases. He is also qualified by the Indigent Defense Commission to represent defendants in capital murder cases. The remainder of his practice includes representing clients in deportation hearings before the Immigration Court.

In 2007, Mr. Lopez was appointed to serve as a substitute judge, and he has continued to serve in that capacity. He has served as a substitute judge in the General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts in Fairfax, Prince William, Arlington, and Loudoun. He greatly enjoys serving the citizens of the Commonwealth as a substitute judge. Mr. Lopez is a member of the Fairfax Bar Association, the Hispanic Bar Association and the Virginia Bar Association.

Mr. Lopez volunteers as a board member of the Arlington Soccer Association. He also serves as a South Arlington Soccer Manager and volunteers his time coaching youth soccer.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Lopez has demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Lopez possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Lopez is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

ROBIN L. ROBB

Experience and Legal Ability: Robin L. Robb earned her Juris Doctor from the George Mason University School of Law in 1988. She was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1988.

Ms. Robb is the owner and sole member of her family law practice, The Law Office of Robin L. Robb, PLLC, which she founded on June 1, 2013. Prior to the start of her own firm, Ms. Robb was a self-employed attorney associated with a general practice, The Law Offices of Earl E. Shaffer, for more than a decade. Although the practice was general in nature, Ms. Robb focused upon family law and child-related issues during her time with Mr. Shaffer's office. She also previously worked as an associate at The Lewis Law Firm and Gabeler, Battocchi & Griggs during the 1990s, and her practice focused mostly upon family law issues in both of these prior places of employment as well. Notably, she served as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Circuit Court of Arlington County from 1988 – 1991. Ms. Robb was also recently appointed to serve as a Commissioner in Chancery in the Circuit Court of Arlington County in August 2013.

While Ms. Robb practices predominantly family law and regularly litigates in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of Arlington County, it is her work as a Guardian *ad litem* about which she is most passionate. In 2003, she won an Advocacy Award from the Arlington County Bar Association for her services as a Guardian *ad litem* in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of Arlington County. Ms. Robb regularly prepares and presents outlines at Continuing Legal Education seminars for Guardians *ad litem* as well. Ms. Robb has been selected as a Virginia Super Lawyer since 2012 and a D.C. Super Lawyer since 2013.

Ms. Robb's practice involves working with children and families from all socio-economic backgrounds across all divisions of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of Arlington County, including, but not limited to, the Commonwealth Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the County Attorney's Office, drug program coordinators, educators, court services professionals, probation officers, social workers, residential treatment providers, mental health professionals, the police and Sheriff's department, as well as other court personnel. She also regularly works with court-appointed attorneys and other Guardians *ad litem* in addition to litigating against attorneys in both private civil and criminal practices in the Court. Ms. Robb is also presently serving on the Board of Directors of the Arlington County Bar Association.

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions, interview, professional references, and follow-up correspondence, Ms. Robb demonstrated to the Committee that she possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Robb possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Ms. Robb is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation. She warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

JASON S. RUCKER

Experience and Legal Ability: Jason S. Rucker earned his Juris Doctor from Mississippi College School of Law in 1998. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1999.

Mr. Rucker's legal career began in Arlington County, representing clients in the areas of family law, contract law litigation, and other pending civil litigations. In 2001, Mr. Rucker became the President and Managing Attorney of Rucker & Rucker, P.C., where he handles the representation of clients charged with criminal offenses, family law issues including GAL appointments, and civil tort litigations. Mr. Rucker's practice also includes capital murder charges. Mr. Rucker takes on *pro bono* work mostly involving representation of indigent clients in probation violation hearings based upon failure to pay court costs/restitution. This *pro bono* work is completed approximately three to four times a month.

Mr. Rucker is very involved with the local community. He is on the Board of Directors for the Arlington Travel Baseball Organization and coaches Arlington Little League. Additionally, Mr. Rucker generously volunteers with the Virginia State Bar and is currently one of thirteen total members on the Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee for the Supreme Court of Virginia, Court of Appeals of Virginia, Federal District Courts in Virginia, or the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Mr. Rucker has taught a number of Continuing Legal Education courses in the past five years, including teaching a course in *Appellate Updates*, and presenting on *the Insanity Defense*. In the past, Mr. Rucker served on the Virginia State Bar Subcommittee overseeing public concern of alleged misconduct of lawyers. Mr. Rucker volunteers with the Arlington County Bar Association and was President of the ACBA from 2014-2015; he remains on the Board for the ACBA as Past-President. He currently serves as the Arlington County Bar Foundation's Director.

Mr. Rucker was awarded the Trial Advocacy Award in 2004 by the Judges of Arlington Circuit Court. Additionally in 2004, Mr. Rucker received from the ACBA the Community Service Award. Mr. Rucker has also appeared in Washingtonian Magazine's "Washington's Best Lawyers" in both 2011 and 2013.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Rucker demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Rucker possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Rucker is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Highly Recommended**.

SHARON F. GUSTAFSON

Experience and Legal Ability: Sharon F. Gustafson earned her Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1991. She was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1991.

Ms. Gustafson has been a sole practitioner at the Office of Sharon Fast Gustafson in Arlington, Virginia since 1995. Ms. Gustafson's practice areas include approximately 50% domestic relations and 50% employment law. In the last five years, Ms. Gustafson has spent approximately 40% of her court appearances in federal court, 25% in state courts of record, and 25% in juvenile & domestic relations district court. Her family law practice includes representing children, birth parents, foster parents, grandparents, or custodians in various matters including abuse and neglect cases, CHINS and delinquency cases, and custody/adoption cases. She has been a guardian *ad litem* for children for nearly 20 years. She also provides approximately six hours per month of *pro bono* legal services.

Ms. Gustafson has participated in and/or presented at five CLEs in the last five years and is scheduled to present in three CLEs between October 20, 2015 and February 3, 2016. She is a member of the following boards, clubs or organizations: Falls Church Anglican, Arlington County Bar Association, National Employment Lawyers' Association, Metropolitan Washington Employment Lawyers' Association, American Academy of Adoption Attorneys, and Christian Legal Society (and its affiliate Christian Adoption Services). She is a member of the Board of Trustees of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and has been since 2012.

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions, interview, and professional references, Ms. Gustafson demonstrated to the Committee that she possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Gustafson possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Ms. Gustafson's qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements for the position of a Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court judge and merit the Committee's affirmative recommendation. She warrants the Committee's rating of **Recommended**.

GINA L. MARINE

Experience and Legal Ability: Gina L. Marine earned her Juris Doctor from the George Mason University School of Law in 1999. Ms. Marine was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2000.

Ms. Marine currently serves as Department Counsel, Active Top Secret Security Clearance within the United States Department of Defense Office of General Counsel. Ms. Marine regularly litigates in due process administrative hearings on behalf of the Government in this position, which she has held since 2006. Prior to working for the federal government, Ms. Marine was a family law associate at the law firm of Colten Cummins Watson & Vincent PC, in Fairfax, Virginia where she routinely litigated complex family law issues ranging from equitable distribution of property, child and spousal support, custody, visitation, paternity, family abuse protective orders, and foster care and adoption.

Although Ms. Marine has worked for the federal government for several years, she remains actively involved in the local community. Since January of 2012, she has volunteered as a *pro bono* attorney with the Attorney of the Day Program of Legal Services of Northern Virginia's Fairfax office. In this capacity, she exclusively represents petitioners who are seeking to obtain civil protective orders against abusive family members. She is a member of the Arlington County Bar Association, a Master of the Bench in the George Mason American Inn of Court, a past President of the Northern Virginia Black Attorneys Association, a past Board Member of the Northern Virginia Women Attorneys Association, and currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Law Related Education Committee of the Fairfax Bar Association.

Her dedication to serving the community is evidenced by the awards and other recognition she has earned for her volunteer service, including the Fairfax Law Foundation Golden Gavel Award for Volunteer of the Year (October 2015), the Harry L. Carrico Pro Bono Award from Legal Services of Northern Virginia (June 2013), a Certificate of Appreciation from the Juvenile and Domestic Relations court for four years of service and contribution to the families and youth of Fairfax County on the Court's Citizen's Advisory Committee (October 2010), an award for her sacrifice and outstanding service as President of the Northern Virginia Black Attorneys Association (December 2008), and a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of the Northern Virginia Black Attorneys Association in recognition of high achievement in a multi bar project serving the Bench, Bar and People of Virginia for the Colors of Justice Program (June 2006) as well as several other letters of appreciation she has received from clients, colleagues and judges.

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions, interview, and professional references, Ms. Marine demonstrated to the Committee that she possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Marine possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Ms. Marine's qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements for the position of a Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court judge and merit the Committee's affirmative recommendation. She warrants the Committee's rating of **Recommended.**

JASON L. McCANDLESS

Experience and Legal Ability: Jason L. McCandless earned his Juris Doctor degree from the College of William and Mary in 1997. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1998.

Mr. McCandless is an Assistant County Attorney for Arlington County. His practice consists primarily of civil litigation on the behalf of the Child and Family Services Division (CFSD) of the Arlington County Department of Human Services (DHS). Mr. McCandless regularly appears at *ex parte* hearings, preliminary hearings, adjudicatory hearings, foster care review hearings, permanency planning hearings, and termination of parental rights hearings. Mr. McCandless also routinely litigates appeals from the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Additionally, Mr. McCandless has served as the financial crimes liaison with the Arlington County Police Department, and as a result of the inspiration provided by this experience, he volunteers as a personal advocate with the Aging and Disability Services section of the Arlington County DHS. He was the liaison with Arlington County Code Enforcement for prosecutions of violations of zoning ordinances, property maintenance codes, fire codes, and environmental codes. He also worked as a member of the Hoarding Task Force.

Within the legal community, Mr. McCandless has presented a Continuing Legal Education course entitled *Obtaining Arlington County Services for Children*, and makes similar presentations available to the Arlington County J&DR Court Services Unit and the Victims/Witness Unit of the Arlington Commonwealth's Attorney's Office. He conducts trainings on mandated reporting of child abuse/neglect for all patrol shifts for the Arlington County Police Department. He serves as a guest speaker biannually in a Justice, Law, & Criminology course at American University, and presents about criminal prosecution and child welfare litigation.

Mr. McCandless' local community involvement is also very strong. He is a firefighter/EMT with the Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department and a paramedic with the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad in Loudoun County. He is a member of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians. Mr. McCandless received the Arlington County Outstanding Volunteer Award in 2008, which was presented by the County Board in recognition of service as a lieutenant and as coordinator of the community birthday party program.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. McCandless demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. McCandless possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. McCandless' qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements for the position of a Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court judge and merit the Committee's affirmative recommendation. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Recommended**.

MARK D. CUMMINGS

Experience and Legal Ability: Mark D. Cummings earned his Juris Doctor from the International School of Law (George Mason University School of Law) in 1978. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1978.

Mr. Cummings has been a partner at Sher, Cummings & Ellis since 1983. He practices general litigation, including legal and medical malpractice, personal injury, and criminal law. Prior to starting his long-lasting partnership with David Sher, Mr. Cummings worked as an associate at Leonard, Cohen, Gettings and Sher from 1978 to 1983. In addition to practicing in the General District, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District and Circuit Courts throughout Northern Virginia, Mr. Cummings has handled several notable appeals to the Virginia Court of Appeals and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Cummings has been an adjunct professor at George Mason University School of Law since 2000. Currently, he teaches Virginia Practice, Virginia Remedies and Health Law.

Mr. Cummings is very active in the Arlington County Bar Association and Foundation. He served as President of the Arlington County Bar Association from 1990-1991 and the Chair of the Arlington County Bar Foundation from 2001-2002. In addition to serving on the Virginia State Bar Professionalism Faculty, Mr. Cummings participates in a variety of pro bono activities and received the "Foundation's Finest" award for fundraising in 2012 by the Arlington County Bar Association. He also received the Pro Bono Award from the Alexandria/Arlington Bar Association in 1992. He serves as a member of the Board of Governors of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. Additionally, Mr. Cummings sits on the Board of the Vicky Collins Charitable Foundation, which supports battered and abused families and indigent children with disabilities.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Cummings demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Cummings possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Cummings meets the requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, and integrity. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Qualified**.

MINA J. KETCHIE

Experience and Legal Ability: Mina J. Ketchie earned her Juris Doctor from George Mason University School of Law in 1983. She was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1984.

Ms. Ketchie began her legal career as a co-founder of McTyre & Ketchie. She later co-founded Ketchie, McTyre & Owen before opening her solo practice, The Law Office of Mina J. Ketchie, where she has continued to work since 2006. She regularly appears before General District, Juvenile & Domestic Relations and Circuit Courts throughout Northern Virginia. Ms. Ketchie's practice areas include approximately 40% criminal law, 2% trust and estates law, 15 % domestic relations and 43% as a guardian *ad litem*. In the last five years, Ms. Ketchie has spent approximately 16% of her court appearances in state courts of record, 30% in general district court, 53% in juvenile court and 1% in administrative agency proceeds (pertaining to the Department of Social Services). Ms. Ketchie's general practice areas include a primary focus on indigent defense, serving as a guardian *ad litem* for adults and children and representing parents in civil abuse and neglect matters. Ms. Ketchie's *pro bono* work in the last five years has averaged two hours per month and includes donating her time as a guardian *ad litem* and serving as counsel in special immigrant juvenile status matters.

Ms. Ketchie is a member of the Virginia State Bar, the Arlington County Bar and is the former Board Chair of GAYLAW. Throughout her legal career, she has received several honors/awards, including the Who's Who – Executives and Professional award (1995-1996), National Who's Who – Life Member (1998), Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court: Shoplifter's Program Service Award (1998), General District Court – Court Appointed Counsel Service Award (2004), and the GAYLAW Service Award (2005).

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions, interview, and professional references, Ms. Ketchie has demonstrated to the Committee that she possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Ketchie possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Ms. Ketchie meets the requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, and integrity. She warrants the Committee's rating of **Qualified**.

SUYONG MIN

Experience and Legal Ability: Suyong Min earned her Juris Doctor from George Mason University School of Law in 2002. She was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2002.

Ms. Min has been a solo practitioner at the Law Office of Su Yong Min, PLLC in Fairfax, Virginia since 2007. Her practice includes general civil and criminal defense litigation. Her civil practice consists of small business litigation such as contract disputes and property damages, as well as personal injury, professional malpractice, and some transactional work. Her civil practice also includes matters involving child custody and visitation, child support, divorce, protective orders, CHINS petitions, abuse and neglect, and parental termination matters. Her criminal defense practice covers a broad range of misdemeanor and felony defense in courts throughout Northern Virginia, including a variety of driving offenses, larceny, embezzlement, false pretences, robbery, assault and battery, malicious wounding, sexual assault, gang participation and other matters.

Ms. Min presently serves as an adjunct professor at the George Mason University School of Law in Arlington, Virginia. She has taught legal drafting and appellate writing courses to George Mason law students since 2007.

Notably, in 2012, Ms. Min was appointed by the Circuit Court of Arlington County, Virginia to serve as a substitute judge. She has served as a substitute judge for the Arlington County Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court, the Arlington County General District Court, and the Fairfax County Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court. As a substitute judge for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court, Ms. Min has presided over matters involving criminal offenses, juvenile delinquencies, civil petitions for protective orders, custody and visitation petitions, and child support matters.

Ms. Min is a member of the Arlington County Bar Association (Member, 2005-present), the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Virginia (Member, 2005-present; Board of Directors, 2008-present; President, 2007-2008), Fairfax Bar Association (Member, 2005-present), the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association (Member, 2002-present); and the Virginia Women Attorneys Association (Member, 2002-present). She also serves as a volunteer judge for various Moot Court trial and appellate competitions, as a panelist on career panels, and as an attorney mentor for the George Mason University School of Law.

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions, interview, and professional references, Ms. Min has demonstrated to the Committee that she possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Min possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Ms. Min meets the requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, and integrity. She warrants the Committee's rating of **Qualified**.

ANDREW R. PARKER

Experience and Legal Ability: Andrew R. Parker earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1990. He was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1990.

Mr. Parker's legal career began at Hogan & Hartson (now Hogan Lovells) where he practiced civil litigation primarily in the state and federal courts of Northern Virginia. In 1992, he joined the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for Arlington County, Virginia as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney. In 1998, he was promoted to Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney and, in 2002, he became the Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney, which is the position he continues to hold today. His practice at the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney is almost entirely criminal prosecution in the Circuit Court of Arlington and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts of Arlington and Falls Church. He has tried a full range of criminal cases from capital murder to traffic court, including more than a thousand felony cases and more than 125 jury trials. During this time, he has also served as a liaison from the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office to the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court and as the specially designated violent juvenile crimes prosecutor. He has served as a special prosecutor in Loudoun, Prince William, Botetourt and Henrico counties and the City of Fredericksburg.

Mr. Parker is a member of the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys and the Arlington Bar Association (Courts Committee Member, 2001-2006; Co-chair, Judicial Selection Committee, 2011-14; Board of Directors, 2014-15; and General District Court CLE Presenter, 2015). Mr. Parker has also been actively involved in the community. He has served on the Board of the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Commission, including as Chair, as well as on the Board of the Arlington Historical Society, and also serves on the Board of the Friends of Argus and Aurora House. He is a 20 year member of the Arlington Committee of 100, is a member of the Donaldson Run Civic Association and the Donaldson Run Recreational Association, and has served as a Babe Ruth and Little League baseball coach.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions, interview, and professional references, Mr. Parker demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Parker possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity to serve on the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Parker meets the requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, and integrity. He warrants the Committee's rating of **Qualified**.