

VWAA JUDICIAL CANDIDATES QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions:

Please complete the following application, sign, date, and return it to vwaa@live.com.

If you have already completed the VSB judicial candidate evaluation committee questionnaire, you may submit that along with all the questions from the Position on Issues and Additional Information sections in this questionnaire as your application.

I. PERSONAL DATA

- a. Candidate's Name:

- b. Name of Court:

- c. Home Address:

- d. Home/Mobile Telephone Number:

- e. Office Address:

- f. Office Telephone Number:

- g. How long have you lived in the state or county of the position to which you are applying?

- h. What are your hobbies and interests outside of the law?

II. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

a. Undergraduate School

i. Degree received

ii. List all notable activities and accomplishments

b. Law School

i. Degree received

ii. List all law school activities, clubs, honors, and interest groups.

iii. List involvement in law reviews and your publications.

c. Other schooling or education received

III. LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Candidates, who are judges, please respond in Section III based on experience before assuming the bench in addition to responding to questions in Section VI. A separate page is provided at the end for a complete response.

- a. Date of admission to practice law in Virginia and in any other state

- b. Are you in good standing for each admission? If you have not been in good standing, please state why.

- c. Provide a chronology of your employment history from law school graduation to the present, including law practice, elected or appointed offices, judicial experience, and business or other non-legal employment. Please explain any absences from the workforce.

- d. Describe all practice areas and state what proportion of your practice is focused in each area.

- e. Describe how often you appear in court and the kinds of matters in which you appear.

f. What percentage of your court appearances in the last five years is in the following:

i. Federal Courts _____%

ii. State Courts of Record _____%

iii. State Courts not of Record _____%

Specify Here:

iv. Other Courts or judicial bodies _____%

Specify Here:

v. State or Federal administrative agencies _____%

g. What percentage of your litigation in the last five years was in:

i. Civil _____%

ii. Criminal _____%

iii. Administrative _____%

h. What percentage of your trials in the last five years was:

i. Jury _____%

ii. Non-Jury _____%

i. How many cases in total have you tried in the last five years?

j. Describe your practice in the county/court to which you are applying for a judicial position.

k. Describe your public interest or pro bono legal work in the last five years, including hours spent and case type.

l. Describe your legal practice at the federal or state appellate level.

m. Describe your experience lecturing, teaching, or participating in legal education courses, including CLEs.

n. Please list your publications.

- c. If applicable, describe how you have participated in court appointed work.

- d. If applicable, describe your involvement in volunteer work for the court.

- e. If applicable, please state why you have not applied to serve as a substitute judge?

- f. If applicable, describe your experience with specialty dockets.

- g. Describe any changes you would recommend to court procedures, local rules, docket structure and policies.

- h. Describe your writing experience, and how that equips you to regularly author written opinions.

PLEASE RESPOND TO SECTION VI IF YOU ARE AN ACTIVE, RETIRED, OR SUBSTITUTE JUDGE. A separate page is provided at the end for a complete response.

VI. EXPERIENCE AS A JUDGE:

a. Identify and describe jurisdiction of all elected or appointed judicial positions, including positions as an administrative law judge or member of the State Corporation Commission.

b. State how many cases you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment.

i. What percentage were:

1. Jury trials _____%

2. Bench trials _____%

ii. What percentage were:

1. Civil proceedings _____%

2. Criminal proceedings _____%

- c. For three cases within the past five years, provide:
 - i. A summary of the nature of the case

 - ii. The outcome of the case

 - iii. The name and contact information for all counsel of record and the Guardian ad Litem, if applicable

 - iv. The citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the judgment or opinion

- d. For cases where you struggled with deciding an issue of law or fact or struggled to reach a decision, please describe your thought process in reaching the eventual outcome.

- e. For cases where you realized you made an inaccurate decision regarding a finding of fact, interpretation of the law, or use of judicial discretion, describe the case and how you resolved the issue.

- f. What areas of law have been the most difficult or challenging to preside over and why?

- g. Provide the citations (or copies) of cases you would like the Committee to consider

- h. Identify and describe the instances in which you have considered recusal, assessed recusal, or have been asked to recuse yourself from a case in the past five years and provide your rationale for the decisions made.

- i. While a judge, have you ever appeared on behalf of, permitted your name to be used for, or contributed to a candidate for public office?

- f. What are your views and practices in handling self- represented litigants, including appropriateness of judicial leeway?

VIII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- a. Have you ever been a party to a civil or criminal proceeding in which a verdict or conviction was rendered against you personally or as a director, officer or manager of an organization? If so, please describe, and include moral turpitude offenses, but do not include concealed carry or divorce matters.

- b. Have any grievances, bar complaints or legal malpractice suits been filed against you for which you have been found guilty or in violation of the Rules of Professional or Judicial Conduct? If so, please state their nature and outcome and include any discipline or citation for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct.
 - i. Provide copies of all bar complaint findings **in your email**.

- c. Have you ever been convicted by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation of any federal law, state law, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance? If so, please give details as follows (do not include traffic infractions and juvenile misdemeanors).

- i. Entity/county/state
 - ii. Date of the conviction
 - iii. Nature of the conviction
 - iv. Provide copies of the final disposition **in your email.**
 - v. Any other relevant information you want to submit

- d. Have you ever held public office other than a judicial office? If so, give the details, including the offices involved, whether elected or appointed, and the dates of your service.

- e. For candidates who have been members of a legislature, what legislation did you introduce or support during your elected terms that significantly affected women? Describe your position on that legislation.

- f. Is there any reason or circumstance that would impair your ability to perform judicial tasks?

- g. Do you have any immediate family members with an interest in any organization, including financially, through employment, or otherwise, that may present potential conflicts-of-interest if you assume the judicial position? If so, explain how you would address and resolve any such conflicts.

- h. If there is any other area or information relevant to this position that you would like to address that has not already been covered, please do so on the attached blank pages.

- i. Please attach a resume **to your email**.

- j. Please list honors and recognition received while practicing law or serving as a judge.

- k. Please list names, addresses, and phone numbers of persons we can contact to discuss your qualifications.

- l. (Optional) Attach **to your email** up to **3** letters of reference or recommendation that you would like the committee to consider.

Signature

Date

PLEASE ADD YOUR LEGAL EXPERIENCES FROM SECTION III BELOW:

**PLEASE ADD YOUR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FROM SECTION IV
BELOW:**

PLEASE ADD YOUR SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE WITH THE COURT TO WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING FROM SECTION V BELOW:

**PLEASE ADD YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A JUDGE FROM SECTION VI
BELOW:**

PLEASE ADD YOUR POSITION ON ISSUES FROM SECTION VII BELOW:

**PLEASE LIST ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM SECTION VIII
BELOW:**