

**CONFIDENTIAL PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
TRIAL COURTS**

You are requested to provide the information called for in this questionnaire in complete detail.

District Court of Maryland for Anne Arundel County AND Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County
The Court and the County for Which You Are Applying

Adams
Last Name

Elizabeth
First Name

Lynn
Middle Name

I would like correspondence concerning my application sent to X my home address _____ my work address _____

Are you a citizen of Maryland? X Yes _____ No

Are you registered to vote in state elections in Maryland? X Yes No

What is the longest period during which you resided in Maryland continuously?

From: 08/27/1976
Month/Day/Year

To: Present
Month/Day/Year

Date and Place of Birth: 08/27/1976
Month/Day/Year

Annapolis, Maryland USA
City/State/Country

Are you a member of the Maryland Bar in good standing? X Yes _____ No

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS FOR JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT

Neither a Commission nor the Secretariat (Administrative Office of the Courts) will publish the name of any individual who submits a personal data questionnaire to the Commission until after the closing date for the submission of questionnaires.

The personal data questionnaire that an applicant submits to a Commission is confidential. If you are nominated, the Secretariat (AOC) will forward a copy of your questionnaire to the Governor but (except as required by law) neither the Commission nor the Secretariat (AOC) will release the questionnaire to anyone else without your written permission. Therefore, if you wish to have your questionnaire released to a bar association or other organization, you must check the appropriate block(s) on page 3.

If the Commission considers the information about you to be incomplete or otherwise inadequate for suitable evaluation of your qualifications, the Commission may ask you to provide, either in written form or by personal appearance, the additional information that the Commission considers appropriate to allow suitable evaluation.

Statements that you make to the Commission, personally or in documents submitted to the Commission, are subject to verification by any method that the Commission considers appropriate.

I authorize transmittal of a copy of this questionnaire to: (check appropriate lines).

_____ J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association (For vacancies in the Sixth and Seventh Judicial Circuits)

Maryland Defense Counsel, Inc. (For Supreme, Appellate and Circuit Courts only)

Maryland Hispanic Bar Association

LGBTQ Bar Association of Maryland

Maryland State Bar Association

Monumental City Bar Association

Women's Bar Association

Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Maryland, Inc.

Alliance of Black Women Attorneys of Maryland, Inc.

Maryland Association for Justice, Inc.

Women's Law Center of Maryland, Inc.

Maryland Criminal Defense Attorneys' Association

_____ Maryland State's Attorneys' Association (For Supreme and Appellate Courts only)

_____ AABA City/County Bar Association

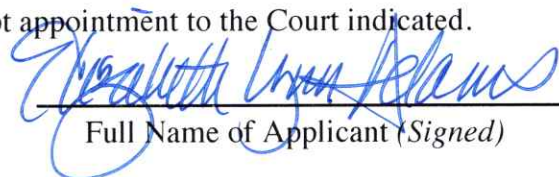
Any Other Any Bar Association that intends to interview candidates.
(See Maryland Lawyers' Manual under Local/Specialty Bar Associations – if you indicate an organization not listed in the Maryland Lawyers' Manual, please provide contact information including name and address)

* * * * *

I submit the following data to the Judicial Nominating Commission and understand that it is subject to verification by the Commission. I authorize any person or custodian of records, including, without limitation, the Commission on Judicial Disabilities, the Attorney Grievance Commission, the Clients' Protection Fund, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, to release to the Commission any and all information, including criminal history record information, that may be available concerning me.

Should I be favorably considered, I will accept appointment to the Court indicated.

August 18, 2025
Date of Application


Full Name of Applicant (Signed)

Elizabeth Lynn Adams
Full Name of Applicant (Printed)

Submission Instructions:

Please submit an original plus 16 hard copies of your Personal Data Questionnaire and two (2) writing samples. In addition, please submit an electronic copy (PDF) of your questionnaire and

writing samples on a portable storage device, such as a flash drive, so that the documents may be disseminated electronically to the members of the Judicial Nominating Commission. The major portion of the writing samples and related research must be that of the applicant. If written documents are co-authored, please indicate which portion is attributable to another author. If written documents were filed in a court or administrative proceeding, please submit as filed.

Your questionnaire and writing samples will be disseminated electronically to each bar association selected on your Personal Data Questionnaire.

Please remit to: **Debra Kaminski or Ebonye Caldwell**
Administrative Office of the Courts
Human Resources Department
Maryland Judicial Center
187 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Fourth Floor
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 260-1271/(410) 260-1289
(800) 735-2258 - MD Relay Service (TT/Voice)

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PERSONAL HISTORY

1. List each name that you have used previously.
Not Applicable.

2. Office Information

a. List your office address, including zip code. Include the name of your law firm, if you are associated with one.

Howard County Office of Law
3450 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

b. List your direct telephone number, including area code.

[REDACTED]

3. Home Information

a. List, with inclusive dates, your home addresses, including zip code, and each other place of residence since your admission to the Maryland Bar.

July 27, 2023 to present

[REDACTED]

July 27, 2000 to July 26, 2023

[REDACTED]

1987 to July 26, 2000:

[REDACTED]

b. List your home telephone number, including area code.

[REDACTED]

I do not maintain a landline.

c. List your cell phone number, including area code.

[REDACTED]

d. List your email addresses.

[REDACTED]

4. Citizenship

a. Are you a U.S. citizen?

Yes.

b. Are you a naturalized citizen? If so, give the date and place of naturalization.

N/A.

5. Family Status:

a. Are you married? If so, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name, including maiden name, if any, and occupation.

No; N/A.

b. Have you been divorced? If so, give the name of each former spouse.

No.

c. Give the names of your children, if any, with age, address, and occupation of each.

N/A.

6. Have you had any military service? If so, provide the dates of service, the branch, the highest rank attained and the form of discharge or release.

No.

7. List any avocational interests and hobbies.

I enjoy studying history, making metal-clay jewelry, playing the piano, collecting gems and minerals, and gardening. I also have three dogs.

8. List any social media service with which you maintain a profile.

Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram.

EDUCATION

9. For each college, graduate school, and law school you attended, list the names and addresses, the dates of attendance, and the degree awarded or, if no degree was awarded from that institution, the reason for leaving the college or school.

University of Maryland Baltimore County
1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, Maryland 21250
1992-1996, B.A., Economics

University of Baltimore School of Law
John & Frances Angelos Law Center
1401 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21250
1996-1999, J.D.

10. State the significant activities in which you took part during the period of your attendance at college, graduate school and law school, giving dates of these activities and any offices or leadership positions you held.

Law School Activities

Assistant Articles Editor & Articles Editor, Journal of Environmental Law, 1998-1999.

Internship, Court of Special Appeals, Honorable Raymond Thieme, (Ret.) 1998.

Student, Appellate Practice Clinic, Office of the Public Defender, 1999.

Member Brand Names Moot Court Team, May 1998 - February 1999.

Student, University of Aberdeen, Kings College, Summer Program, 1997.

Undergraduate Activities

Member of the New Student Orientation Committee, 1993-1996.

President and member of the Political Economy Club, 1995-1996.

Member Omicron Delta Epsilon, Economics Honor Society, 1996.

11. Briefly describe your continuing legal/judicial education during the past five years.

I engage in the following training events on a regular basis:

1. Cawood Inns of Court- the Inns meets monthly throughout the academic year and with each evening, a new topic/CLE is discussed. Recent topics have included Worker's Compensation 101; Daubert; Voir Dire; Expanded Voir Dire; Qualified Immunity; and other topics.
2. I am responsible for creating the day-long training for the MBSA State and Local Government Section. Recent topics have included the Impact of Social Media on Trial Work; Government Appointments 101; Legislative Update; Caselaw update; New Challenges in the Federal Realm.
3. I also have participated in CLE's as offered by the AABA in Family Law, Diversity, Legislative Update, and the like.

I have taken the following courses.

1. Child Custody 101: Determining Custody and Parenting Time for Modern Families
2. Text Message Evidence in Divorce Litigation
3. Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter and More in Divorce: An Attorney's Guide
4. Top 5 Challenges in Finding Hidden Assets in Divorce
5. Divorce 101: The Divorce Legal Process Explained
6. What's Next for CBD (FDA Speaks)
7. Employee Speech vs. Employer Discipline: Government Employers and the First Amendment
8. Art and the Spoils of War: Lessons from the Temple of Ishtar
9. Voir Dire: Skills and Techniques for Selecting a Jury
10. #MeToo- Media Frenzy, New Era in Sexual Harassment, or Both?
11. Democratic National Committee v. The Russian Federation, et al.: Does the DNC's RICO Claim Have Merit?

12. From Murder to Museums: Current Legal Controversies Over Looted Art
13. First Amendment Review: Public Forum and Government Speech
14. Federal and State Caselaw Updates, multiple years
15. Ethical Traps for the Unwary-Immigration Consequences of Crime
16. Crimmigration 101
17. How to Recognize and Manage Unconscious Bias in Your Legal Practice
18. Public Employees, Private Speech
19. Weed at Work: Your Top Questions Answered
20. Domestic Violence Issues in Family Law
21. 4th Amendment Update
22. Smartphone, Text and Social Media Evidence in Family Law
23. 1983 Litigation - IMLA
24. IMLA- Animal Law
25. Appellate Practice, MSBA
26. MSBA State & Local Government Section; Spring/Fall Institute, multiple years.
27. Trump Litigation – Immigration, DEI, & Funding trainings.

I have attended the following conferences.

1. MSBA Conferences 2022, among other years; and
2. MSBA State & Local Government Spring/Fall Institutes, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, and other years.

Since 2023, I have served as the Chair for the Section Council for the MSBA-State & Local Government Section.

I am a member of the Police Legal Adviser's Group where topical cases, legislative

matters, appellate opinions, and other legal issues are taught/discussed/analyzed.

12. Have you taught any courses on law or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal/judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each.

From 2010 through 2017, I served as a national faculty member with the National Association of Attorneys General Training and Research Institute (“NAGTRI”). NAGTRI provides training based on the National Institutes of Trial Advocacy “NITA” training model. As a faculty member, I have lectured, critiqued, and given feedback for practicing attorneys for programs. From 2010 until 2015, I served as a frequent in-house lecturer with the Office of the Attorney General. Topics on which I provided lectures/trainings include Deposition Skills; Trial Advocacy; Advanced Trial Advocacy; Expert Witnesses; Electronic Discovery; Negotiations Strategy; Motions Practice and Oral Advocacy; Direct Examination; Cross Examination; Opening Statements & Closing Arguments; Witness Preparation; Basic Deposition Skills; Negotiation Strategy & Assessing Damages; Obtaining Admissions & Theory Testing; Dealing with Obstreperous Attorneys; Case Theory; and Effective Use of Exhibits.

Through the Anne Arundel County Bar Association, I have participated as a lecturer in several “Law Day” programs. I have also participated in the Pipeline to Success, 2024 and 2025.

I have also served as a lecturer on “Social Media Etiquette” at the Women Moving Forward Conference 2022 and October 2023.

13. List all published books or articles you have written, giving citations and dates of publication.

I wrote an article for use on The People’s Law Library of Maryland on the topic of default judgments. “Default Orders & Judgments in Maryland: What are they and what can I do if I get one?” This article regularly was among the most frequently downloaded articles on the site and was also translated into Spanish.

I have also edited and contributed subject matter information to a tort claim notice article for that same site, “Suing the State of Maryland, the Maryland Transit Administration, or a Local Government in Maryland: the Tort Claims Acts”.

I have drafted several articles for *The Barrister*: “A symbol in the shape of a cross”, “Remember the Ladies, part 1 & 2”, “And May God Have Mercy on Your Soul”, and homages to Judge Greene and Judge Ripken.

LAW PRACTICE

14. Indicate the date of your admission to the Maryland Bar (Supreme Court of Maryland/Court of Appeals) and to each other court in which you are currently admitted to practice.

Supreme Court of Maryland, 2000

United States District Court for the District of Maryland, 2004

District of Columbia, 2008

United States Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, 2016

Supreme Court of the United States, 2019

United States District Court for the District of Columbia (Admitted as Government Counsel) 2022

United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, 2023

15. Describe chronologically your law practice and experience after your graduation from law school, including, but not limited to, the following items:

a. Whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court, and the dates you were a clerk.

I had the honor of serving as a law clerk to the Honorable Eugene M. Lerner from May 1999 through June 2000.

b. Whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and the dates.

I maintained a small practice from 2005 to 2008. The locations were 7477 & 7495 Baltimore & Annapolis Boulevard, Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061. I practiced in criminal defense, serious traffic, civil, and on occasion, domestic law.

c. The names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies, or governmental agencies with which you have been connected, and the dates and nature of your connection with each.

The nature of my practice over the past fourteen years has been representing State and Local Government entities in the below listed areas/matters and at various trial

and appellate courts, including The District Court of Maryland, Maryland Circuit Courts, the Appellate Court of Maryland, The United States District Court for the District of Maryland and the District of Columbia, The United States Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, and Administrative hearing boards.

The Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights ("LEOBR"); Establishment Clause matters; Maryland Declaration of Rights claims; §1983 claims; *Longtin* and *Monell*; False Arrest; False Imprisonment; Negligent Hiring Retention, and Supervision; Breach of Contract; Declaratory Judgment; Fraud; Negligence; Constitutional Taking; Equal Protection; Due Process; Excessive Force; Governmental and Sovereign Immunity; Unemployment denial appeals; Employment related matters; Scope of Employment; Construction Litigation; Procurement matters; Extreme Risk Protective Orders; Criminal conduct matters; Probable cause determinations; Employee discipline; Sufficiency of internal affairs investigations; Counsel and advice to the Park Police Divisions; General-personnel background checks; Employment security screening; Application and interpretation of pending legislative matters; Application of new or existing statutory requirements and caselaw; Personnel grievances; Fraternal Order of Police Union negotiations; Bankruptcy matters, creditor's rights and lift-stay motions; Construction issues; Insurance coverage matters; Settlement negotiations; Electronic discovery requests and productions; Conservatorship agreements and enforcement; Public information act requests and responses; Employee Speech Policies; and Open Meetings act matters.

Principal Counsel, Howard County Office of Law, Ellicott City. (June 2023 to present). I serve as a senior trial attorney and counsel to the Risk Management Department, the Department of Corrections, and the Administrative Charging Committee. I am responsible for complex civil litigation at all court levels, including Federal and Appellate. Types of cases include, but are not limited to wrongful death, civil rights, and other torts.

Attorney IV, Prince George's County Office of Law, Upper Marlboro. (August 2022-June 2023). Responsible for complex civil litigation representing the County as cases alleging federal civil rights violations, violations of the Maryland Declaration of Rights and related tort claims, including but not limited to wrongful death, false arrest/false imprisonment, Fair Housing Act claims.

Senior Counsel/Associate General Counsel, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Annapolis & Riverdale, Maryland. (November 2015 – July 2022.)

Assistant Attorney General: Office of the Attorney General, Maryland State Treasurer's Office. Annapolis, Maryland. (August 2009 to November 2015.) **Tort Litigation Supervisor,** (2011-2015) Assistant Attorney General, Tort Litigation Unit, Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Maryland State Treasurer's Office. **Senior Counsel** (2010-2011), **Assistant Attorney General** (2009-2010), Tort Litigation Unit, of the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Maryland State Treasurer's Office.

As the Tort Litigation Supervisor, I was a Supervising Attorney and managed 200-250 tort litigation cases, annually. In that role I authorized settlement as appropriate on all tort litigation cases arising under the Maryland Tort Claims Act; provided tactical instruction, advice, and recommendations to other AAG's on tort cases; offered guidance on settlement discussions and negotiation strategy; determined the appropriateness, necessity and gave approval over the use of Expert Witnesses; trained, and supervised staff within the Tort Litigation Unit; defended a full caseload of active cases, at all court levels; served as a regular lecturer within the Office of the Attorney General for in-house training on subjects related to litigation and trial skills; advice and counsel to the Maryland State Treasurer on issues relating to: insurance coverage; liability; claims handling and denial of claims; personnel matters; legislative issues, including preparing fiscal impact statements, written testimony, and analysis of bills; review and approval of the responses under the Maryland Public Information Act.

National Faculty Member: National Association of Attorneys General Training & Research Institute. (2010 through 2017.) I served as a national faculty member and taught at multiple locations throughout the United States & territories, and approximately 30+ trainings from coast to coast, Hawaii and Guam. NAGTRI taught in a learn-by-doing NITA-style teaching method. In addition to improving my trial skills, I had the added benefit of working and learning with/from the finest government litigators across the country. Programs that I served as a NAGTRI instructor include, Direct Examination; Cross Examination; Opening Statements & Closing Arguments; Witness Preparation; Deposition Skills; Expert Witnesses; Negotiation Strategy & Assessing Damages; Obtaining Admissions & Theory Testing; Dealing with Obstreperous Attorneys; Case Theory; and Exhibits.

Assistant County Attorney: Anne Arundel County Office of Law. From May 2008 to August 2009, I served as an Assistant County Attorney litigating a variety and high volume of cases. My duties included: Defense of cases arising under the Local Government Tort Claim Act; Counsel to the Department of Aging; Personnel matters (litigation of termination and disciplinary actions); Public Information Act review and responses; Miscellaneous Collection suits, and corresponding actions to enforce judgments the County had obtained.

Trial Attorney: Small Firm Practitioner. Glen Burnie, Maryland. (August 2004 to May 2008.) I was a member of either a small practice or a solo firm where my practice areas included criminal defense, serious traffic offenses, civil cases, peace/protective orders, and domestic matters.

Surety Claim Attorney: St. Paul Surety. Baltimore, Maryland. (September 2002 to August 2004.) I worked as an in-house claim attorney handling construction claims. I was responsible for managing nominal to multi-million-dollar exposures arising from under Payment, Performance, and Commercial Bonds. I also managed litigation in-house for matters relating to bond defaults, civil litigation, indemnity matters, bankruptcy, contract, and construction law.

Assistant State's Attorney: Anne Arundel County. (June 2000 to August 2002.) After completing my clerkship for Judge Lerner, I joined the State's Attorney's Office for Anne Arundel County where my Supervisor was Michael Cogan. The skills I learned in this position have served as a vital foundation for my career as a litigator, and my ability to manage quickly changing, high stress situations. From June 2000 to September 2002, I served as a prosecutor assigned to the District Court division and served in both the Glen Burnie and Annapolis locations. Working with talented trial attorneys (both prosecution and defense), I obtained extensive trial and litigation experience in handling a high volume of cases, bail reviews, preliminary hearings, motions hearings, felony and misdemeanor cases, plea negotiations, preparing witnesses and cases for trial, collegiality, professionalism, and handling sensitive matters.

Judicial Law Clerk, Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. Annapolis, Maryland. (May 1999-June 2000.) It was my honor to serve as Judge Lerner's law clerk.

d. The reasons for termination of employment and/or practice and any other relevant details.

I have never been terminated from a position or asked to leave a position.

16. Your Practice

a. What has been the general character of your practice? If its character has changed over the years, divide your description into periods with dates.

In addition to the detail provided above, the general character of my practice generally is 6 years criminal law focused, 18 years civil law focused, and one year

clerkship.

b. Describe your typical clients, and mention the areas, if any, in which you have primarily practiced.

My typical clients are government employees and government divisions or departments. I have experience in a wide variety of areas of the law, but my primary focus is complex civil litigation. Specific areas of my career that have served as hallmarks are criminal litigation and civil litigation. For the past fifteen years, my areas of focus include the below. The MTCA and LGTCA; LEOBR; Civil Rights suits, including §1983; Maryland Declaration of Rights; False Arrest and False Imprisonment; Negligent Hiring, Negligent Retention, Negligent Supervision; Breach of Contract; Procurement Claims; Wrongful Death; Construction/Commercial Suits; Constitutional Taking; Equal Protection; Due Process; Wrongful Termination; Union Grievances; Establishment Clause, Assault, Battery, 4th Amendment Violations, 5th Amendment Violations, Equal Protection, Defamation, Negligence, Malicious Prosecution, Malice, Gross Negligence, Excessive Force, Medical Malpractice, Wrongful Death, Governmental and Sovereign Immunity, Qualified immunity, Statutory personnel immunity, and Public Official Immunity. Additionally, I have handled all manner of other tort suits; Administrative trial boards; Administrative appeals to the Circuit Court arising out of the administrative proceedings; appellate matters to the Appellate Court of Maryland and other appellate matters relating to my scope of work.

Responses to discovery requests and/or *subpoena duces tecum* regarding electronic data and large scale e-discovery matters including directing the scope of the data pull, analysis of documents for responsiveness, privilege and appropriate coding, indexes/privilege logs.

Among other motions, I have drafted and argued motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgment, post-trial motions, such as remittiturs and stay of enforcement, issues concerning resolutions of viable claims through determination of joint tort-feasor liability, negotiations of releases and settlements, and voluntary and court mandated mediations.

17. With respect to the last five years of your non-judicial legal practice:

a. Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally, or not at all? If the frequency of your appearances in court has varied during this period, please describe.

As a civil litigation attorney, I appeared regularly in Court for the past five years of my practice.

b. What percentage of your appearances were in the following courts?

- | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| 1. Federal Appellate Courts. | 10% | 4. State Circuit Courts. | 45% |
| 2. Other Federal Courts. | 10% | 5. The District Court of Maryland. | 15% |
| 3. State Supreme and Appellate Courts. | 15% | 6. Other (Specify).
Administrative Trial Boards | 5% |

c. What percentage of your cases were:

- | | | |
|-----------|------|-------------|
| 1. Civil. | 100% | 2. Criminal |
|-----------|------|-------------|

d. State the number of your cases that were tried to verdict or judgment and indicate whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

Over the past five years, I have tried approximately 10 cases to verdict or judgment as either sole counsel or supervising counsel.

e. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | | | |
|---------|-----|-------------|-----|
| 1. Jury | 10% | 2. Non-jury | 90% |
|---------|-----|-------------|-----|

f. In approximately what percentage of your cases were you successful in resolving them short of filing suit or trial?

95% (short of trial).

g. If you were engaged in a non-litigation practice in whole or in part, what percentage of your time was in the following areas?

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. General business | 5. Administrative |
| 2. Commercial | 6. Domestic Relations |
| 3. Estates and Trusts | 7. Juvenile Matters |
| 4. Real Estate | 8. Other (Specify) –
Government Advice to Clients,
approximately 15% |

18. Indicate as to the last five years of your non-judicial legal practice:

a. Whether your appearances in court were more or less frequent than during the prior five-year period.

More frequent.

b. Any significant changes in the percentages stated in answer to question 17 b, c, e, f, and g.

No.

c. Any significant changes in the number of cases you tried to verdict or judgment as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

No.

d. Any significant increase in the percentage of matters you have referred for alternative dispute resolution ("ADR"), including mediation and arbitration, or that you have settled short of trial or of filing suit.

No.

19. Identify three of the most significant cases you have ever handled that went to trial, identifying the judge who tried the case, opposing counsel, the place where it was tried, the major points at issue in the litigation, and the result, and describe your participation in the case.

a. *Brooks v. State of Maryland*, in the Circuit Court for Charles County.

The Presiding Judge was the Honorable Krystal Alves from the Circuit Court for Prince George's County (specially assigned). Dan Karp, Esq., represented the Deputy Sheriff. I represented the State of Maryland. Terrell Roberts, Esq., represented the Plaintiff.

The major points at issue in the case were: whether the stop, arrest, and first and/or second tasing of the plaintiff was racially based, whether lawful or unlawful, whether the Deputy Sheriff used excessive force and violated the Plaintiff's Maryland Declaration of Rights.

I was the sole counsel for the State of Maryland. In that role, I represented the State as the employer of the Deputy Sheriff in a five-day jury trial. Because the Maryland Tort Claims Act substitutes its liability for the negligent acts of its employees, and the State is responsible where the employee was within the scope of their public duties, acting without malice, or acting without gross negligence. This case also included the issue of a State employee acting in a local-government capacity. For that reason, and the allegations of malice and excessive force, the Deputy Sheriff was sued in his personal capacity.

The Plaintiff alleged that the Deputy Sheriff acted with malice and with racial bias. For that reason, the Deputy Sheriff needed to be represented by separate counsel. I defended the State as to the balance of liability under the MTCA. In his closing argument, the Plaintiff's attorney requested a \$1,000,000.00 judgment. In my closing, I argued that there was no tort committed by the State's employee, but in the event, they should find any responsibility, the appropriate award should be no more than \$2,878.50. for medical expenses.

The jury deliberated for about four hours and found that the Deputy Sheriff did use excessive force, but awarded only compensatory damages in the amount of the actual medical bills of \$2,878.50. The jury awarded no monies for pain and suffering, no punitive damages, and found that there was no malice or gross negligence.

b. *Carol Walker v. Anne Arundel County*, in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County.

The Presiding Judge was the Honorable Paul G. Goetzke (Ret). My Opposing counsel was Ryan Atwell, Esq. & Leo Hyland, Esq.

The major point in issue was whether the county had actual or constructive knowledge of a defect in a roadway. The plaintiff alleged that while walking, her foot slipped into a crevice in the roadway and caused a tear to her meniscus, requiring surgery and rehabilitative treatment.

I was assigned to try the case shortly before the trial date, after a colleague had resigned from the office. I served sole counsel for the County at the trial. I represented the County and argued that the County did not have either actual or constructive notice of the defective condition and therefore, the County was not liable for Ms. Walker's injuries. The jury deliberated for approximately thirty minutes and returned a defense verdict.

c. *State of Maryland v. (Unknown Defendant)*, in the District Court of Maryland for Anne Arundel County, circa 2000.

The Presiding Judge was the Honorable Paul Hackner (Ret). My Opposing Counsel was Peter O'Neill, Esq.

This was a specially assigned District Court suit, and was one of the most significant prosecutions to be assigned to me early in my career. The issue in the case was whether the defendant's conduct was sufficient to amount to a second-degree assault. Cory, the victim, and his friend had been downtown Annapolis, drinking and clubbing. After a night of revelry, the two decided to stop by the Wa-Wa on Spa Road to get a sandwich. Cory was the more intoxicated of the two young men. While standing in the store waiting for

his sandwich, he was approached by another male, harassed, then beaten nearly to death. The victim, Cory, did not recall the bulk of the assault or significant details of the assault due to the severity of the attack. The injuries to the victim were so significant that he was hospitalized for several days, for loss of consciousness with a concussion, severe bruising and lacerations requiring stitches. The victim, Cory, had a boot print on his face with the partial word "Timberland". Months after the attack, he still demonstrated symptoms consistent with traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress, social anxiety, and depression. The police simply arrived on the scene, wrote a report, and sought charges against one of the two culprits. Frankly, the investigation was far less than acceptable given the severity and nature of the offense. Understandably, the victim's family was upset at the lack of attention given by the police. The case was called for trial, the victim appeared, and the case was postponed to be specially set.

Once I was assigned the case, I began with nothing more than a cooperative, but memory-challenged victim, and a poorly written police report severely lacking in attention or detail. I went to the crime scene, found witnesses to testify to the attack, took measurements of the scene, took photographs, worked on transferring a non-readable security system into exhibits for trial, prepared other trial exhibits, and generally readied the case for trial. I repeatedly spoke on the phone with the victim's father and met with the victim and his family to assure them that I would make sure the case was as ready for trial as possible. I earned their trust.

At the end of a lengthy District Court trial, the Defendant was convicted and was sentenced to a term of incarceration of several years at DOC. Judge Hackner made several statements from the bench regarding the nature of the crime and the pure violence of the Defendant. After the case, Judge Hackner called me to the bench, and commended me for a trial well done. I had proven myself to my hardest critic and my most doubtful supporter; I had proven myself to myself.

20. List all memberships in bar associations of any type or jurisdiction, including dates of membership, offices or positions held, dates of participation, and any other details you consider to be of particular significance.

Member, **Anne Arundel County Bar Association 2000 to present.**

Barrister Committee, 2019 to present.

Board of Trustees, 2021 to present.

Co-Chair of Community Services Division 2024, 2025.

Member Bar Weekend Planning Committee 2023, 2025. Chair of Fundraising Division 2023, 2025.

Member, **Cawood Inns of Court**, 2019 to present.

Board Member, 2023 to present.

Member of the **Maryland State Bar Association**, 2004-2006; 2015 – present.
Section Council, Delivery of Legal Services, 2015- 2021.
Member State and Local Government Section, 2015 to present.
Chair, Section Council June 2023 to present.

Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation 2015 to present. (Membership in the Fellows is a recognition of “outstanding dedication and contribution to maintaining the honor and integrity of the legal profession, the improvement and facilitation of the administration of justice, the work of the organized Bar of Maryland and civic leadership. Membership as a regular Fellow is limited to not more than 2.5% of MSBA membership. Invitations are extended only after a nomination by a current Fellow and endorsement by the Board of Directors and Foundation.”

Member, Women’s Bar Association 2006-2008; 2013 to present.
Chapter President, Anne Arundel County Chapter, June 2018 to 2021.

Member, Prince George’s County Bar Association 2016 to 2022.

Member, Women Leader’s in Law Seminars 2013-2014.

Involved, National District Attorney Association, 2000-2002.

Member, Maryland Criminal Defense Attorneys Association 2006-2008.

21. List all professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition that you have received.

Exceptional Service Award from the Attorney General of Maryland, January 2012: “For achieving outstanding results at trial in some of the most serious and complicated cases under the Maryland Tort Claims Act; for providing excellent advice and outstanding representation to numerous agencies in litigation matters; for [my] role in resolving three wrongful death cases, which resulted in fair compensation to the plaintiffs and avoidance of substantial exposure at trial; for winning dismissals of cases of difficult negligence, excessive force, and civil rights cases; for taking on new challenges at the State Treasurer’s Office on non-litigation matters; for providing invaluable training to other Assistant Attorneys General at deposition and trial advocacy seminars; and for all around excellence as a trial lawyer.”

The Daily Record, Very Important Professionals List, August 2014. This award honors “Maryland leaders based on their professional accomplishments, a commitment to inspiring change in their community, and their tremendous accomplishments, achieved

before or by age 40. Our VIPs are the ones to watch, at law firms, companies, hospitals, nonprofits and universities.” *The Daily Record*, www.thedailyrecord.com.

Letter of Commendation, Honorable Peter Franchot, Maryland State Comptroller, August 2014.

Letter of Commendation, Honorable Lynne Battaglia, August 2014.

Letter of Commendation, Honorable Nancy Kopp, Maryland State Treasurer, February 2012. “You should feel very proud of your accomplishments! You are doing a phenomenal job and I am so pleased to know that you are receiving recognition for your hard work. The citizens of Maryland are very fortunate to have you as a trial lawyer and public servant, and the State Treasurer’s Office is a better place with you here. I know there will continue to be many challenges and opportunities for you to excel in the future. Thank you for your commitment and for your outstanding service. Keep up the great work.”

Certificate of Service from Douglas Gansler, Maryland Attorney General for “outstanding performance as faculty for Motions [&] Oral Advocacy training.” October 2013.

Certificate of Service from Douglas Gansler, Maryland Attorney General for “outstanding performance as faculty for Trial Advocacy training.” December of 2013.

Multiple appreciation letters from NAGTRI for national and mobile trainings.

Letter of appreciation from the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General.

Letters of appreciation from Douglas Gansler, Maryland Attorney General.

In May of 2013, for volunteering at Law Day, I received a “thank you” email from the Point Pleasant Elementary School Counselor thanking me for coming to the school and for making a “stellar presentation ... that was inspiring.”

Certificate of Appreciation, Anne Arundel County Bar Association, June 2022.

BUSINESS AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

22. Have you ever engaged in any business or profession other than the practice of law? If yes, state the name of the business or employer and the dates of service and briefly describe the nature of the business or profession and the reason for leaving.

Not Applicable.

23. Are you now an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? If so, provide details as to the nature of the business, the nature of your duties and the term of your service. Is it your intention to resign these positions and withdraw from participation in the management of these enterprises if you are appointed? If not, explain.

Not applicable.

24. Have you ever held a judicial or quasi-judicial office? If yes, please provide the names of the courts and the periods of service.

Not applicable.

25. List all non-judicial public offices, elected or appointed, you now hold or have held in the past. If currently held, would you be willing to resign from these positions? If not, explain.

I am the current Section Council Chair for the MSBA State and Local Government Section. I have been a member of the Section Council since 2021.

I served as a co-chair of the Women Moving Forward Steering Committee and have served on the Committee in a non-leadership role 2020-2024.

I served as Treasurer for Coventry Three Condominium Association from March 2016 to October 2018.

26. List all civic activities in which you have taken part, giving the dates of participation and any offices or leadership positions you have held.

Women Moving Forward Steering Committee, (Member 2021, 2022) (Co-Chair 2023). Women Moving Forward is the oldest and largest organization in the U.S. focused on children and families of the incarcerated, and programs that serve them. In 2008, WMF Maryland, initiated by the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), established an annual conference at the Maryland Correctional Institute for Women (MCIW) for approximately 150 women that are six to nine months from release. The WMFMD Conference offers resources and information necessary to support women in their successful return to the community. The conference is supported by volunteers from all areas of the community, including judges, attorneys, parole and probation representatives, former inmates, and inspiration speakers of varied backgrounds. The conference is made possible every year by these volunteers, and contributions from the community and vendors that are willing to donate items or services at a reduced cost/fee. I have been honored to be a part of the committee as well as a lecturer on Social Media Etiquette.

Community outreach projects with the **Women's Bar Association**, 2013 to present.

The Anne Arundel County WBA chapter won the Community Service Award in July 2017 for our extensive efforts at community outreach. Participation in event and donation of items for our events at the Chrysalis House 2015 to present. Stuff a back-pack for Anne Arundel County Students, 2015 to present. Waxter Center where we provided young women with tools for self-reflection, support, and self-esteem, 2014.

WBA's "Shop for CASA" event 2016, 2017, & 2018. December 2017, assisted with collection and donation of holiday items for the YWCA.

CASA of Anne Arundel County.

Volunteer with CASA. Assisted with CASAblanca event, November, 2018 - present. Subaru "Share the Love Event" December, 2018. I currently serve on the Gala planning committee, 2024-present.

Anne Arundel County Bar Association.

Member 2021 to present. Member of Bar Weekend Planning Committee, Sponsorship Committee Chair. Service on *The Barrister Committee*. Moot Court Competition Judge, three trials 2019, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025. Law Day speaker, several years, Bar charitable events including feeding homeless or persons living in food deserts; Anne Arundel County Bar Charitable Foundation through the Angel Tree Program; Thanksgiving/Turkey Donation; Pub Quiz Nights; Pipeline to Success, 2024 and 2025.

Maryland Office of the Attorney General.

From 2012 to 2014, I volunteered for the OAG at the Maryland State Fair for community outreach and providing resources to the public.

Peoples Law Library of Maryland

Volunteer Writer for the Peoples Law Library of Maryland with the Maryland State Law Library. The group works to make the law more accessible to the public and pro-se litigants.

Maryland State Treasurer's Office/Salvation Army

From 2009 to 2015, I participated in charitable fundraising efforts with the Maryland State Treasurer's Office to provide less fortunate families a wonderful Christmas holiday. My efforts included cooking and selling homemade soups at the soup luncheons, cooking and

selling homemade chili at the chili luncheon, making hundreds of baked goods for sale for the various events, purchasing gifts near the holidays, wrapping the gifts with other co-workers, and preparing them for delivery to less fortunate families. I have also assisted with The Maryland State Treasurer's charitable donations to the Baby Pantry with Food Link. Our goal is to help young mothers without a source of income provide for their infants and children.

Section Council, Delivery of Legal Services ("DLS"), Maryland State Bar Association.

I served six years on the Section Council for DLS. The DLS section provides training and information about access to justice, pro bono representation, community needs and inspires meaningful ways to its members to "give back."

The Commission for Women/Montgomery County Commission for Women, Centennial Celebration, 2020.

I served on the planning committee as a member of the Maryland Women's Bar Association for the event titled, "The Women and Our Vote: 100th Anniversary of Suffrage." The event served to honor the centennial of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, to honor those suffragettes that fought for the right to vote, and to teach about the historical challenges of winning the vote. While the event was originally planned to be in person, the onset of Covid-19 required the committee to significantly change its planning and instead hold the event virtually. The event can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/J5AN-afu2mw>.

Guinto's Helping Hands.

2014-2015, Public outreach to at-risk youths and visits to Kennedy Krieger Hospital.

M-NCPPC Summer Camp.

2019, "She the People," guest speaker for young women aspiring to professional careers, spoke about practicing law and the *Peace Cross* case.

27. List all other charitable, educational, fraternal or sororal, recreational, or religious organizations, trade groups, professional societies (other than bar associations), and similar groups for which you now are or have ever been a member and give the dates of membership and the titles of the offices, if any, that you held.

I was inducted into the Economics Honor Society, *Omicron Delta Epsilon*, during my undergraduate studies in 1996.

28. List all awards or recognition you have received that are not listed elsewhere.

See previous responses.

CONDUCT

29. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? If so, provide details. DO NOT include motor vehicle offenses for which a fine of \$200 or less was imposed.

No.

30. Provide details of any legal case, including divorce, bankruptcy, or insolvency, in which you personally are now or previously have been a party. For each, list the court or tribunal in which the case occurred, identifying case number, date range during which you were a party, the names of the other parties, and a complete description of the matter.

a. *M. Virginia Miles, et al. v. State Ethics Commission*, in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, 02-C-02081420 (2002). Declaratory Judgment Action. The case related to the release of our home addresses and the concern by the prosecutors that, due to the nature of our positions, the release of this information would place us at harm. George Lantzas, Esq. & Maureen Quinn, Esq., represented the members of the Office of the State's Attorney. The matter was resolved without significant litigation, and a stipulation of dismissal was entered in 2003.

b. *Adams v. Nicewanner, et al*, in the Superior Court for Wake County, North Carolina, Case No.16474. Suit arising out of a motor tort while I was vacationing in North Carolina in July 2017. Suit filed July 2018. Case settled and dismissed prior to trial, August 2019.

c. *Nancy Parlett v. Arundel Gas & Water Conditioning Company, et al*, in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, Maryland, Case No.:C-02-19-00635 (June 2019 filed; case settled and dismissed). This was a family-against-family lawsuit arising out of the closely-held family business. Suit is brought by Nancy Parlett (my Great Aunt) in her capacity as the Personal Representative of her daughter's estate. Allegations in the suit included shareholder freeze-out and misappropriation of corporate funds by A-Class shareholders (my Great Uncles and Aunts), in avoidance of paying dividends to the estate. The suit also included dissolution/receivership counts. I was named as an interested person in the suit because I inherited a portion of my deceased mother's "B-Class" shares in the corporation. No wrongdoing was alleged by any party against me or any other B-Class shareholders. We were joined in the suit merely as necessary parties to the dissolution/receivership counts. A settlement was reached and the matter is dismissed with

prejudice.

31. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by, or the subject of such a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group, including without limitation, the Commission on Judicial Disabilities, the Attorney Grievance Commission, or the Clients' Protection Fund? If so, provide all relevant details, including final disposition of the matter.

No.

32. Has a complaint or claim ever been made against you alleging bullying or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, or disability? If so, please explain.

No.

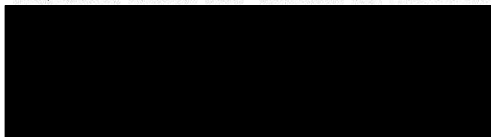
33. Is there any other information about you that might be considered detrimental or that otherwise should be taken into consideration by the Commission in evaluating your application? If so, provide all relevant details, including a description of each incident with pertinent dates, names, and addresses.

No.

GENERAL

34. List the names, business addresses, and business telephone numbers of at least three individuals who are familiar with your professional qualifications and who have known you for longer than the last five years. *(NOTE: AN APPLICANT SHOULD NOT USE THE NAME OF A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION AS A REFERENCE.)*

Laurie Lyte, Esq.
Retired from the Office of the Attorney General



Hon. Laura Novello-Fuggitti
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4990 Rhode Island Avenue
Hyattsville, Maryland 20781-2008
301-298-4200

Michael G. Comeau

[REDACTED]
410-937-9005

Michael Lord
Director, Retired
Maryland Ethics Commission
410-991-9144

35. Is this the first time you have applied for a judicial vacancy? If not, for each of your prior applications state the dates, the judicial offices, and whether you were nominated, appointed, not nominated, or not appointed.

I applied for the District Court of Maryland in 2014, 2018, 2024. I was not nominated.

I applied for the Circuit Court in 2014, 2018, 2019, and 2021. I was nominated for the Circuit Court in 2021, but not appointed.

36. Have you filed all federal and state tax returns that are now due or overdue, and are all payments thereon up to date? If not, explain. Have federal, state, or local authorities ever instituted a lien or other collection procedure against you? If so, explain.

I have timely filed all tax returns and payments required.

37. Do you have a professional, business, consanguineous, or personal relationship with any member of the Judicial Nominating Commission that may interview you for this vacancy? If so, provide dates and a description of this relationship.

No.

38. During the preceding five years, have you belonged to a club or organization (other than a religious organization) that discriminates against or excludes persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, or disability? If so, please explain.

No.

39. What motivates your interest in being a judge?

What is right and fair and just has always been a core of who I am. It is the reason that I

was drawn to law as a career, and it is that reason that I aspire to serve my community on the bench. I have built my career on public service, and if permitted to serve in a judicial capacity, I believe that I can be of greater service to my community. Anne Arundel County has always been my home and my community is important to me. The right and fair and just application of the law to resolve disputes is what most motivates me to be a judge. I want to help; I want to be of service to my hometown and my community.

40. Why do you believe you would be a good judge?

I believe I would be a good judge because I would apply the law in a right and fair and just way. I am a diligent worker and constant student of the law. My rulings would be based on sound legal foundation after considering all of the evidence.

A good judge acts without being motivated by “ego.” To be a good judge, aside from being learned and well balanced in experience. A good judge will not confuse the duty to serve, for the exertion of power. A good judge should be ever aware of this, and treat litigants and attorneys with respect; not acting because of an unbalanced or unfettered exercise of authority (commonly known as “robe-itis”).

A good judge serves. A good judge ensures that all parties are heard and that they are given a full, fair, and impartial hearing. A good judge serves her community by acts of kindness, community service, and giving back. A good judge serves justice by dutifully acting to ensure that rulings are promptly and properly made, due process is afforded to all, order is maintained in her courtroom, and that difficult decisions are made with care. A good judge recognizes that she is charged with a special responsibility to do justice- what is right and fair and just.

A good judge remains a student, of history, of the law, and of society. There will always be new things to learn, new ways to grow, and new legal issues to undertake. Humility and a desire to continue to learn and a desire to be fully prepared for all matters before her, are critical to being a good judge.

A good judge understands her place in the larger picture. After a long career, a good judge will leave a legacy of fairness to the parties that appeared before her, the attorneys that presented their cases to her, and for upholding the law by fairly and impartially applying it. In doing so, a good judge will have done her part to be a good steward of the law, maintaining and safekeeping the law and the judiciary.

Above all, a good judge will have integrity, patience, and a strong sense of service an duty to her community. I will be a good judge because I understand and believe to my core all of these things, and because I will ever push myself to be more than I am in this moment; to do more; to serve more; to know more; to be more. I will do these things, not from ego,

but from a duty to serve, a recognition of all those that have spoken for me, and for all those that I may come to serve; Anne Arundel is and always has been my home; my community. If selected to serve, I will serve my community rightly, fairly, and justly.

41. Is there anything additional in your background that the Commission should consider in evaluating your qualifications to be nominated for this vacancy?

I was born in 1976, in Anne Arundel County, in the hospital that is now a condominium behind the courthouse. I have lived my entire life in Anne Arundel County, first in Edgewater; later in Deale, eventually Crofton, and now Davidsonville. Even at a young age, I knew that I wanted to be a lawyer, and eventually a Judge. I spent many a school night watching Judge Wapner and wanting to be like him (there were no female examples for me to admire).

My childhood was not traditional. Free to work at my own pace in school, I graduated from high school at 15 years of age. The fall immediately following, I began my undergraduate degree at UMBC. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics at 19 years old.

I was the first in my family to attend graduate school, and I remain the only attorney in my family. As my birthday falls at the end of summer, I was 19 years old during my first week of law school. I graduated three years later; I was 22 years old. I was certain even then that I wanted to become a judge.

Near the end of law school, I applied for every clerkship in Anne Arundel County, with every judge on the bench. I knew I wanted to start my career in my hometown, and I shared that in my cover letters to the judges. I had no contacts in the legal community. One day my phone rang, and it was Judge Lerner's Administrative Aid, Barbara Palumbo, asking me to come in for an interview.

I remember walking into his chambers, nervous, excited, and hopeful. I sat across from him and looked around his office and noticed pictures of him with each of his law clerks. I hoped my photo would be up there next. During the interview, it became clear that he already knew that I could handle the job; what he wanted to know was who I was, and whether my community, which was also his community, mattered to me. He wanted to know that he was helping someone from this community, his community, get a start in the legal profession.

A few weeks later, my phone rang again. This time it was Judge Lerner on the other end. He was chipper and excited, and asked me one simple question, "Can you start on Wednesday?" "Yes, Sir. What time should I be there?" Judge Lerner was opening a door for me. He was giving me the opportunity to build my career. I spent that year in his

chambers, learning doing, watching, and preparing.

The day after I was sworn in as a member of the bar, I signed up for the Anne Arundel County Bar Association, and met my parents and grandparents in Courtroom 3A. I was sworn in as an Assistant State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County. Judge Lerner sat on the bench as Robert Duckworth swore me in. Barbara Palumbo, one of the most impactful mentors of my entire career, handed me a bouquet of flowers. I was no longer the judge's law clerk. I was 23 years old.

Over the intervening 25 years, I have practiced criminal prosecution and defense; civil plaintiff's work and civil defense. I've handled thousands of cases, big cases and small cases, and all types of cases in between, death cases to civil rights cases, breach of contract cases, Federal and Maryland Constitutional cases, and "normal" tort suits. I have been in private practice and public service.

I have deliberately pushed myself and taken every opportunity to grow as both an attorney and as a human being. I have always known that I wanted to be a judge, in this County; in my County. And maybe, just maybe one day, if given the opportunity, I can look across my desk at a young lawyer wanting to find their place in this community and this profession, and ask them, "Can you start on Wednesday?" So that way, I can hold the door open for someone; like my Judge did for me.