

## APPLICATION FOR CANDIDATE FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Position applied for: \_\_\_\_\_

### GENERAL

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Date of birth (required): \_\_\_\_\_

4a. Are you a Vermont resident (see 4 V.S.A. § 602(c)(1))? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4b. Town of primary residence: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Telephone nos. Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

6a. Years practicing law and/or judging in Vermont (minimum 10 years per 4 V.S.A. § 602(c)(1)): \_\_\_\_\_

6b. Have you practiced law, or held judicial office, in Vermont for at least five years immediately preceding this application (see 4 V.S.A. § 602(c)(1))? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6c. If the answer to b. above is NO, are you seeking an exception to the five-year requirement in 4 V.S.A. § 602(c)(1)? If so, please explain the basis for seeking this exception. Note: The Board may make exceptions to the five-year requirement for absences from practice for reasons including family, military, academic, or medical leave.

## EDUCATION

7. List colleges and law schools, dates attended, and degrees or credits received:
8. Academic honors at the college or law school level, if any:
9. If you clerked for admission to the bar instead of attending law school, please state the dates and for whom you clerked.

## PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS

- 10a. List all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admission requirements in which you are presently admitted or have previously been admitted to practice, giving the date of admission in each case.
- 10b. Has your license to practice in any jurisdiction been suspended, revoked, or limited at any time. If so, please provide the date(s) and circumstances that led to such action.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

11. Please list below, or include an attached resume or curriculum vitae that lists all legal jobs you have held since being admitted to the bar, including name and location of the employing or contracting entity(ies), dates of employment, and title(s).
12. Please list below, or include an attached resume or curriculum vitae that lists the name and location of employing or contracting entity(ies), dates of employment, and title(s) held for any other full-time employment since graduation.

**LEGAL EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE**

13. Please describe your professional experience in each of the following legal arenas: family, civil, criminal, probate, juvenile, municipal, environmental or other. Include a description of any legal specialties you possess.

14. During the past ten years (or if you are a judge, before you became a judge) what percentage of your work experience involved litigation, including motions, hearings, appellate arguments, administrative hearings, trials, and other contested hearings? Please briefly describe the role you played.
15. During the past ten years what percentage of your work experience has involved each of the following:
- |                     |       |   |
|---------------------|-------|---|
| a. family matters   | _____ | % |
| b. juvenile matters | _____ | % |
| c. civil matters    | _____ | % |
| d. criminal matters | _____ | % |
| e. probate          | _____ | % |
| f. administrative   | _____ | % |
| g. municipal        | _____ | % |
| h. environmental    | _____ | % |
| i. other            | _____ | % |
16. Please estimate how many evidentiary hearings, including trials, you have participated in as a lawyer or a judge and briefly describe your role(s).

17. Estimate the percentage of your total court time spent in each of the above courts over the last ten years.

- |                          |       |   |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
| a. criminal              | _____ | % |
| b. family                | _____ | % |
| c. civil                 | _____ | % |
| d. probate               | _____ | % |
| e. federal trial         | _____ | % |
| f. federal appellate     | _____ | % |
| g. Vermont Supreme Court | _____ | % |
| h. administrative body   | _____ | % |
| i. environmental court   | _____ | % |
| j. other court           | _____ | % |

18. Please describe your professional experience in each of the following areas:

a. academics, including teaching, presentations, seminars

b. management, including business, law firm, human relations, or other

c. mediation, arbitration, or other dispute resolution

d. writing, including articles, journals, books, etc.

19. If not otherwise described above, please describe why you have sufficient trial or other comparable experience that ensures knowledge of the Vermont Rules of Evidence and courtroom procedure.

**JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE**

20. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, please state your position, the name of the court(s) and dates of your service.

- 20a. For current judges: Have you ever sat as an Acting Supreme Court Justice? If so, how many times? Please include citations to any and all written opinions you authored as an Acting Supreme Court Justice.

21. Have you ever served as an Acting Judge or Acting Magistrate in the Vermont court system? If so, please state the courts to which you have been assigned, approximate dates and the approximate number of assignments.

22. Have you ever served as an arbitrator, hearing officer, administrative law judge, or other administrative decision maker? If so, please describe the service and the approximate number of assignments.

23. Please state any quasi-judicial boards or commissions on which you have served, including the name(s) of the agency(ies) for which you served, the position(s) held, the issues under your jurisdiction, and the dates of such service.

24. Calculating all of your judicial or quasi-judicial experience, approximately how many times have you:
- a. prepared a written decision on a contested matter \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. issued an oral decision on a contested matter \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. handled motions or other contested proceedings \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. conducted an evidentiary hearing or proceeding \_\_\_\_\_

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

25. If you have published any books or articles not identified in response to previous questions, please list them, giving titles, citations, and dates.

#### **PROFESSIONAL, CIVIL AND PUBLIC SERVICE**

26. If you have experience as a member of any administrative, legislative, judicial, or regulatory boards, commissions, study committees, or agencies, or any private, corporate or non-profit boards, please list them, giving names and dates served.



27. If you have served as an appointed or elected official in any local, county, state, or federal government position, please provide details and dates.
28. Please list all Bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member, give the titles and dates of any office which you may have held in such groups, and identify committees in which you were active.
29. List any honors, prizes or awards you have received, including the name of the award, the organization granting it, and the date of the award.
30. Please list all other non-profit, community service, or other organizations, of which you have been a board member during the past ten years, including the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in each such organization, and/or any other significant volunteer experience.

## POTENTIAL CONFLICTS

31. Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service to the Court? If so, please explain.
32. Do you have any personal or professional relationship(s) which might present conflicts of interest in the position you are seeking? If so, please explain.
33. Identify the categories of litigation and financial arrangements that are most likely to present potential conflicts of interest if you are appointed to the position for which you are applying. Include any deferred income arrangements, stock options, uncompleted contracts, and other future benefits which you expect to derive from current or prior professional relationships.
34. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest including those identified in questions 32 and 33 above.

## MISCELLANEOUS

35. Have you ever been convicted by federal, state or other law enforcement authorities for a violation of any federal law, state law, or county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? If so, please give details. Do not include traffic violations, unless it also included a jail sentence. Do not include expunged or sealed convictions. *Please be advised that the Judicial Nominating Board conducts a criminal background check on every applicant.*
36. Have you ever had a civil judgment against you? If so, please provide details about the case and its disposition. Please also state whether you have ever defaulted on a judgment and under what circumstances.
37. Have you or your professional liability insurance carrier ever settled a claim against you for professional malpractice? If so, please give particulars, including the amounts paid.

38. Have you ever been disciplined for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by any court, administrative agency, bar association, professional group, Judicial Conduct Board, or Professional Conduct or Responsibility Board in any jurisdiction? If so, please provide details.
39. Are all your taxes paid? (federal, state and local) current (i.e., filed and paid) as of the date of this application? If not, are you on an approved payment plan?
40. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure (including receipt of balance due notices) ever been instituted against you by any federal, state, or local tax authority? If so, please explain and describe the outcome.
41. Have you ever been the subject of any audit or investigation for federal, state or local taxes? If so, give full details.

42. Have you ever declared bankruptcy? If so, give details.

**JUDICIAL OFFICE QUESTIONS**

43. Why do you want to hold the judicial position for which you are applying?

44. Please describe a legal case or experience that has a special significance in shaping you as a lawyer or as a judge, as a person, or both, and explain why.
45. Please describe a personal experience that you believe will influence your ability to serve as a successful justice and explain why?
46. Please describe your experiences working with diverse populations.
47. What do you see as the primary issues facing the judiciary today? What would you propose to address or resolve the issues you've identified?

48. Please describe any administrative and managerial experience that would make you a successful Supreme Court justice.
49. Reflecting on your career to date, which individual has had the most profound impact on your work and why?
50. What makes you well qualified to hold the position you are seeking?

51. Please attach two representative writing samples appropriate for the position for which you are applying. One should be a maximum of 10 pages. The other can be up to 25 pages. Both should be largely your own work product.
- 52a. In the space below, please explain why you selected these writing samples.

53. List the names, addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers of four references who know you professionally. Please include at least two professional adversaries. Please describe how each named reference knows you. *Please be advised that Judicial Nominating Board rules permit Board members to contact non-references for additional information about applicants.*

**Reference 1**

**Reference 2**

**Reference 3**

**Reference 4**



### AFFIDAVIT

\_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that all of the information I have provided in this Application is true.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

STATE OF VERMONT

COUNTY, SS

At \_\_\_\_\_, in said County, \_\_\_\_\_ personally appeared and subscribed and swore to the truth of the above before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

### WAIVER

I hereby waive my right to privacy as it relates to the Judicial Nominating Board for any information I have provided herein, including the right of the Board to freely communicate with any names listed on my reference sheet with the understanding that any information will be held in confidence by the Board. I also understand and agree that if my name is forwarded to the Governor's office it will be accompanied by this full application.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate