SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
APPLICATION FOR CIRCUIT JUDGE

PLEASE NOTE: RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IF THE APPLICANT IS SELECTED AS ONE OF THE NOMINEES FOR THE VACANCY.

1. State your full name.

   Jalilah Otto

2. State your date and location of birth.

   December 4, 1977 - Kansas City, Missouri

3. State your present occupation, place of work, and job title.

   Chief Trial Assistant, Jackson County, Missouri Prosecuting Attorney's Office

   Special Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney's Office

4. Provide the following information concerning your eligibility for the office of Circuit Judge:

   (a) Are you at least thirty years of age? **Yes**

   (b) Are you licensed to practice law in Missouri? **Yes**

(c) Have you been a citizen of the United States for at least ten years? **Yes**

(d) Have you been a resident of Jackson County for at least one year? **Yes**

5. State whether you are able, with or without a reasonable accommodation, to perform the essential functions of a Circuit Judge, including the ability to preside over trials, conduct legal research and analysis, attend court anywhere in the State of Missouri, communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing, and expeditiously decide issues coming before the court.

I am fully capable of performing the essential functions of a Circuit Judge as described above.

6. State the year of your admission to the Missouri Bar and whether your license is and always has been in good standing. If not, please explain.

2002 - My Missouri Bar license is and always has been in good standing.

7. List any other states, courts, or agencies in which you have been licensed as an attorney, and state whether your license is and always has been in good standing.

United States Courts for the Western District of Missouri - My license is and always has been in good standing.

United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit - My license is and always has been in good standing.

8. Provide the following information for all colleges or universities, other than law schools, you have attended:

(a) Name and location of institution

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana

(b) Dates attended and degrees received

1995-1996 and 1997-1999

Bachelor of Arts, Double Major in Communications and Political Science

(c) Significant activities, achievements, honors, and awards

National Achievement Scholarship Recipient

Studied abroad at the International University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

(a) Name and location of institution

University of Missouri - Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri

(b) Dates attended and degrees received

1996-1997

No degree awarded

(c) Significant activities, achievements, honors, and awards

None

9. Provide the following information for all law schools you have attended:

(a) Name and location of law school

University of Missouri - Columbia School of Law, Columbia, Missouri

(b) Dates attended and degrees received

1999-2002

Juris Doctorate

(c) Significant activities, achievements, honors, and awards

Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Recipient

Lloyd L. Gaines Scholarship Recipient

Studied abroad at The American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt

Black Law Students Association, Vice-President 2000-2001

(a) Name and location of law school

University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law, Kansas City, Missouri

(b) Dates attended and degrees received

January 2002 to May 2002

No degree awarded -- Attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law as a visiting student from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law. The University of Missouri-Columbia School of law awarded me a Juris Doctorate degree in May 2002.

(c) Significant activities, achievements, honors, and awards

None

10. State whether you have ever been suspended or expelled as a student from any school or educational institution. If so, please explain.

I have never been suspended or expelled from any school or educational institution.

11. List, in chronological order, all non-legal and legal employment you have held post-high school. Include the name and location of each employer, job title, dates of employment, and reason for termination of employment.

1995 Dorm Desk Supervisor, Federal Work Study at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, resigned to attend school in Kansas City, Missouri

1996 Cashier, Meiners Sunfresh, Kansas City, Missouri, resigned to attend school in New Orleans, Louisiana

1997 Telephone Dispatcher with Tulane University Police Department, Federal Work Study at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, resigned to study abroad in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

1998 Summer Intern, internship arranged by the International University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, internship ended when the study abroad program ended

1998 **Telephone Dispatcher with Tulane University Police Department, Federal Work Study at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, resigned upon graduation from Tulane University**

1999 **Telemarketer, Direct Security ADT, Kansas City, Missouri, resigned to attend University of Missouri - Columbia School of Law**

2000 **Telemarketer, Gannett Telemarketing, Columbia, Missouri, resigned to focus on law school courses**

2000 **Volunteer Editor for *Sawasiah* Magazine, Cairo, Egypt, resigned when study abroad program ended**

2000 **Winter Intern, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District - Judge Harold Lowenstein, Kansas City, Missouri, resigned to return to University of Missouri - Columbia School of Law**

2001 **Summer Intern, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District - Judge Harold Lowenstein, Kansas City, Missouri, resigned to return to University of Missouri - Columbia School of Law**

2002 - 2005 **Judicial Law Clerk, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District - Judge Lisa White Hardwick, Kansas City, Missouri, resigned to accept different employment**

2005 - 2010 **Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Jackson County, Missouri Prosecutor's Office, Kansas City, Missouri, resigned to accept different employment**

2005 **Adjunct Professor, National American University, resigned to focus on my full-time employment as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney**

2007 - 2008 **Adjunct Professor, Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley Campus, resigned to focus on my full-time employment as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney**

2010 - 2013 **Special Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney's Office in the Western District of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, resigned to accept promotion with the Prosecutor's Office**

2013 **Chief Trial Assistant, Jackson County, Missouri Prosecutor's Office, Kansas City, Missouri**

12. Describe the nature and extent of your experience as a practicing attorney in the trial and appellate courts, and explain how such experience demonstrates the quality of your legal work.

I have spent every day of my professional career working on behalf of the citizens of Missouri. Over a decade ago, I began working as a judicial law clerk for Judge Lisa White Hardwick of the Missouri Court of Appeals. As an appellate law clerk, I reviewed the decisions and determinations of trial court judges throughout the Western District of Missouri. For three years, I was exposed to a broad array of procedural and substantive legal issues involving civil, criminal, domestic, juvenile and administrative appeals. The issues raised in these appeals often involved workers compensation disputes, personal injury claims, employment discrimination allegations, dissolutions of marriage, child custody, termination of parental rights, as well as a host of criminal matters and determinations by the Missouri Public Service Commission. Each case presented novel and complex questions of law, and I was responsible for conducting exhaustive research on all arguments raised by the parties and the Appellate Court. Using this research and established standard of review, I analyzed the entire record on appeal, which included all relevant motions filed in the original case, all applicable court orders and voluminous transcripts. I then collaborated with Judge Hardwick and drafted preliminary judicial opinions affirming or reversing rulings of the trial court judge or hearing officer.

My work as a law clerk made me comfortable addressing unique and unfamiliar areas of law. While working at the Court of Appeals I developed the ability to conduct efficient and thorough research, and write concise opinions resolving complex legal questions. I also gained an appreciation for the vital importance of always creating a record for appellate review.

When I left the Court of Appeals, I became a trial attorney with the Jackson County, Missouri Prosecutor's Office. As an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, I gained considerable trial experience early in my career. As a an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney I tried over 20 criminal cases, the majority of them to a jury, and represented the Missouri Department of Revenue in over 30 civil administrative bench trials. On a daily basis, I appeared in Jackson County Circuit Court for substantive evidentiary hearings on motions for bond modification, suppression of evidence, probation violations and sentencing recommendations. Initially, I was assigned to the high-volume drug unit for almost two years before requesting to be transferred to the victim-intense domestic violence unit. In the domestic violence unit I had the ability to remain a trial attorney while positively impacting the quality of life for victims of violent crime.

In addition to maintaining a full criminal trial docket, I served as the primary appellate attorney for the Prosecutor's Office. I filed extraordinary writs for relief and appellate briefs with the Missouri Court of Appeals, as well as responded to an emergency writ with the Missouri Supreme Court. I had the honor

of returning to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District to argue an appellate brief I had written on the State's liability to pay attorney's fees for a defendant who was acquitted of a murder charge. I also was consistently asked to review complicated legal issues and provide guidance to senior attorneys in various criminal cases including capital cases.

In 2010, I was given the opportunity to serve as the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Special Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office. As the HIDTA Special Assistant I practiced exclusively in both the Federal District Court for the Western District of Missouri and the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. For three years I was assigned to the narcotic and gang unit and participated in complex criminal investigations involving multi-defendant drug conspiracies, money laundering through multi-national banks and wire fraud. I also focused on investigating and prosecuting violent crimes committed in Kansas City and St. Joseph, Missouri. The federal model of vertical prosecution permitted me to be involved in pre-arrest investigations, Grand Jury presentations of proposed Indictments, arrests, arraignments, pre-trial motions, trials, appeals and requests for post-conviction relief. As a federal prosecutor I tried four federal jury trials and wrote three appellate briefs to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Recently, I was elevated to the position of Chief Trial Attorney with the Jackson County, Missouri Prosecutor's Office, while maintaining my designation as a Special Assistant United States Attorney. I currently supervise over 20 criminal prosecutors and support staff. As a Chief I have the opportunity to train new attorneys, and take on a management role within the Prosecutor's Office. My cross designation as a Chief Trial Attorney and a Special Assistant United States Attorney permits me to conduct criminal trials in both state and federal court.

As a state and federal prosecutor I have the responsibility of making very difficult decisions that affect the lives of others and the safety of the general public. Rarely are these decisions easy, clear-cut, or popular. A determination to file charges, or proceed to trial, is never taken lightly and must only be done after a complete review of the facts and available evidence.

Over the last eleven years my legal practice has been varied and extensive. I have tried over 20 criminal and 30 civil administrative cases in state court. I have also written appellate briefs and argued before the Missouri Court of Appeals. I have tried four complex jury trials in the Federal District Court and have written appellate briefs to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. I have worked hard at every opportunity that I have been given and have strived to be a conscientious attorney that advances clear, concise and well-reasoned arguments. In 2009, I was humbled by my peers honoring me as the Louis Lombardo Prosecutor of the Year. The increasing level of responsibility that I have been given throughout my career, as well as garnering the respect of my peers, demonstrates the quality of my legal work and expertise.

13. Provide a representative list of at least ten cases in which you served as the primary attorney at trial or an administrative hearing. The list should include the style of each case, court or administrative agency, identification of your client, and the nature and date of disposition.

United States of America v. Rene Meras, 12-000XX-01-CR-W-ODS, United States Courts for the Western District of Missouri, Judge Ortrie Smith. Represented the United States of America, Second Chair. April 29, 2013. Defendant was convicted of Possession of a Controlled Substance with the Intent to Distribute after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of being in possession of two pounds of powder cocaine at the Greyhound Bus Station in Kansas City, Missouri.

United States of America v. Jason L. Robbins, 11-00082-01-CR-W-DGK, United States Courts for the Western District of Missouri, Judge Greg Kays. Represented the United States of America, First Chair. November 26, 2012. Defendant was convicted of two counts of being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm and two counts of being in Possession of a Stolen Firearm after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of being a convicted felon and participating in the theft of multiple firearms, he placed one of the stolen firearms in his girlfriend's mouth during a dispute.

United States of America v. Rasheed Shakur, et al., 09-00224-01/08-CR-W-HFS, United States Courts for the Western District of Missouri, Judge Greg Kays. Represented the United States of America, Second Chair. February 4, 2011. Lead Defendant was convicted of Conspiracy to Distribute a Controlled Substance, Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering, two counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent of Distribute, being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm and Possession of a Firearm in a Drug Trafficking Offense after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of being the organizer of a drug trafficking ring involving over 20 co-conspirators/defendants. Key witnesses for the United States during this three-week trial included over 10 co-conspirators/defendants.

United States of America v. Jason L. Harris, 10-06006-01-CR-W-DGK, United States Courts for the Western District of Missouri, Judge Greg Kays. Represented the United States of America, First Chair. November 2, 2010. Defendant was convicted of two counts of being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of being a convicted felon and firing a firearm during a dispute.

State of Missouri v. Melba J. Walker, 0916-CR01109, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 8, Judge Peggy Stevens McGraw. Represented the State of Missouri, First chair. August 9, 2010. Defendant was found not guilty of Murder in the Second Degree and Armed Criminal Action after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of shooting a woman she had been associated with. Key witnesses for the state included the defendant's son and daughter-in-law.

State of Missouri v. Marion Chapman, 0816-CR04775, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 10, Judge Charles Atwell. Represented the State of Missouri, Second Chair. April 29, 2010. Defendant was convicted of Murder in the Second Degree and Armed Criminal Action after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of stabbing and killing his paramour. Key witnesses for the State included the defendant's mother and sisters.

State of Missouri v. Dustin P. Hency, 0816-CR06624, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 1, Judge Sandra Midkiff. Represented the State of Missouri, First Chair. November 18, 2009. A hung jury after 8 days of trial. Defendant pled guilty before the next trial setting. Defendant was accused of killing a teenage boy after a fight. Key witnesses for the State included teenage friends of the defendant.

State of Missouri v. Carrie A. Washington, 0816-CR04058, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 15, Judge Robert Schieber. Represented the State of Missouri, Second Chair. July 20, 2009. Defendant was convicted of Voluntary Manslaughter and Armed Criminal Action after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of stabbing and killing her boyfriend.

State of Missouri v. Leonard I. Jackson, 0816-CR01197, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 70, Judge John Moran. Represented the State of Missouri, Second Chair. March 4, 2009. Defendant was convicted of Domestic Assault in the Second Degree, Attempted Robbery in the Second Degree and Misdemeanor False Imprisonment after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of assaulting his girlfriend, binding her with duct tape and robbing her.

State of Missouri v. Joseph L. Emory. 0716-CR03404, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 3, Judge David Byrn. Represented the State of Missouri, First Chair. December 16, 2008. Defendant was convicted of Domestic Assault in the First Degree after a bench trial. Defendant was accused of assaulting his girlfriend, causing her to have reduced vision in one eye.

State of Missouri v. Vernon L. Young, 0616-CR07597, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 15, Judge Robert Schieber. Represented the State of Missouri, Second Chair. December 17, 2008. Defendant was convicted of Murder in the Second Degree, Assault in the First Degree, and two counts of Armed Criminal Action after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of killing a teenage boy during a drive-by shooting.

State of Missouri v. Michael D. Calvin, 0716-CR02048, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 10, Judge Charles Atwell. Represented the State of Missouri, Second Chair. Defendant was found not guilty of three counts of Domestic Assault in the Third Degree and Victim Tampering after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of assaulting his girlfriend and then making threatening phone calls to her after his arrest.

State of Missouri v. Carlos E. Saulsberry, 0716-CR05491, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 14, Judge John Torrence. Represented the State of Missouri, First Chair. Defendant was convicted of Violation of an Order of Protection after a bench trial. Defendant was accused of violating a court order to have no contact with his ex-girlfriend less than two hours after the court issued the order of protection.

State of Missouri v. Tiffany M. Coleman, 0616-CR06540, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 15, Judge Robert Schieber. Represented the State of Missouri, First Chair. Defendant was convicted of Assault in the Third Degree after a bench trial. Defendant was accused of throwing a cup of bleach into the face of her sister-in-law.

State of Missouri v. George W. Browning, 0616-CR04348, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 6, Judge John O'Malley. Represented the State of Missouri, Second Chair. January 30, 2007. Defendant was convicted of Assault in the First Degree after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of stabbing a woman on a street corner.

State of Missouri v. Phillip S. Hudson, 0516-CR04187, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court Division 10, Judge Charles Atwell. Represented the State of Missouri, First Chair. October 30, 2006. Defendant was convicted of Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Drive-by Shooting) and Tampering in the First Degree after a jury trial. Defendant was accused of firing a gun at a police officer during a traffic stop.

14. If you have appellate experience, provide a representative list of cases in which you served as the primary attorney on appeal. The list should include the style of each case, appellate court or administrative agency, identification of your client, and the nature and date of disposition.

United States of America v. Armon Thompson, 12-1673, United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Represented the United States of America. Thompson challenged the lawfulness of the closure of the courtroom during his sentencing hearing following a guilty plea. Authored the brief for Respondent. Affirmed. April 23, 2013.

United States of America v. Willie Jones, 11-3830, United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Represented the United States of America. Jones challenged the sentence imposed following a plea of guilty to a controlled substance offense. Submitted on the briefs. Affirmed. November 6, 2012.

United States of America v. Jason Lee Harris, 11-3839, United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Represented the United States of America. Harris challenged the sentence imposed during a resentencing hearing following his conviction for being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm. Submitted on the briefs. Affirmed. May 3, 2012.

United States of America v. Jason Lee Harris, 11-1763, United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Represented the United States of America. Harris challenged the sufficiency of the evidence supporting his conviction. Submitted on the briefs. Affirmed remanded for resentencing. October 28, 2011.

State of Missouri v. Jose Banuelos-Artega, WD71425, Missouri Court of Appeals for the Western District. Represented the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office. Appellant challenged the trial court's denial of his motion for reimbursement of attorney's fees by the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, or in the alternative the State of Missouri, following an acquittal in a murder case. I successfully argued that the Prosecutor's Office was not liable for reimbursement, and the matter was remanded to the trial court for an evidentiary hearing on the liability of the State of Missouri. Case remanded following oral argument. March 31, 2010.

Ex. rel Michael Sanders v. Honorable Sandra Midkiff, WD66850, Missouri Court of Appeals for the Western District. Represented then Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney Michael Sanders. A Writ of Prohibition filed against Judge Sandra Midkiff for granting a defendant's request for a Subopena Duces Tecum. Writ denied on May 23, 2006.

15. If you are serving or have served in a judicial capacity, describe the nature and extent of your judicial responsibilities, the types of dockets handled, and any special expertise developed.

I have never served in a judicial capacity.

16. If you are serving or have served in a judicial capacity, provide a representative list of at least ten cases over which you have presided to completion. The list should include the style of each case and the nature and date of disposition.

I have never served in a judicial capacity.

17. If you do not have significant experience in litigation or in a judicial capacity, describe any other legal experience or accomplishments in the legal profession that may qualify you to serve in the office of Circuit Judge.

Not applicable.

18. List all bar associations and law-related organizations of which you are or have been a member, with any offices held and dates of membership.

The Missouri Bar, 2002 to present

Committee on Minority Affairs, Vice-President 2010

Member of the Leadership Academy, 2009-2010

Committee on Minority Affairs, Secretary 2009

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, 2007 to present

Criminal Law Section, Senior Member-at-Large and Chair of the Criminal Law Committee 2013

Diversity Section, Senior Member-at-Large 2013

Chair of the Heartland Diversity Legal Job Fair, 2011

Jackson County Bar Association, 2007 to present

First Vice-President, 2012 and 2013

Scholarship Preparation Team, 2007 and 2012

Association of Women Lawyers, 2010 to present

Community Service Committee, Vice-Chair 2013

Step Up for Women Program, Participant 2011

National District Attorneys Association, 2007 to 2010

19. List any published articles or books you have authored and any significant programs or events for which you served as a primary speaker.

The Missouri Bar, "Trials of the Century," Continuing Legal Education Seminar, Moderator

National Business Institute, "Legal Ethics: Solutions to the Most Common Problems," Continuing Legal Education Seminar, Speaker

Jackson County Bar Association, So You Think You Want to be a Judge, Part 2 Continuing Legal Education Seminar, Moderator

Federal Courthouse Diversity Committee Luncheon, Women and the Law Seminar

The Missouri Bar Annual Meeting, "R.E.S.P.E.C.T.-21st Century Perspectives on Civility and Professionalism," Continuing Legal Education Seminar

The Missouri Bar Leadership Academy, Assisted in writing, producing and performing in an ethics video entitled "21st Century Professional Perspectives." The video is used in law school Professional Responsibility classes as well as Continuing Legal Education Seminars

Lawyers Association of Kansas City Court Crawl, Introduction to the United States Attorney's Office Presentation

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, Heartland Diversity Legal Job Fair Panel Speaker

Urban Summit, Prosecuting Criminal Offenses in State and Federal Court Seminar

Generation Rap, Three-part series focused on reducing crime, Guest Speaker

Stalking and How to Obtain an Order of Protection, Guest Speaker

When Teen Dating Goes Bad, Guest Speaker

Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, How to File an Appeal Seminar

Federal Courthouse Tours, Introduction to the United States Attorney's Office Presentation

Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley, Adjunct Professor First Amendment Law and Constitutional Law

National American University, Adjunct Professor Introduction to Legal Principles

For a list of additional reoccurring programs where I served as a primary speaker please see question 22.

20. Do you now or have you ever held any elective or appointive public office or position? If so, please explain.

Kansas City Commission on Violent Crime, 2011 to present - In 2011, Kansas City Mayor Sylvester James appointed me to serve on the Kansas City Commission on

Violent Crime. The Commission has been asked to review the City's current policies for crime prevention and suggest new initiatives to reduce violent crime. The Commission consists of various community and civic leaders, who all serve in a voluntary capacity, as well as members of law enforcement.

Kansas City Municipal Officials Ethics Commission, 2010 to present - In 2010, Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser appointed me to sit on the seven-member Kansas City Municipal Officials Ethics Commission. In 2012, Kansas City Mayor Sylvester James re-appointed me to the Commission. The Commission reviews candidate financial disclosure reports as well as investigates ethical complaints against city officials. The Commission is comprised of a chairperson and six citizen members who represent each of the voting districts in Kansas City. I serve as the volunteer representative for the citizens of Kansas City's 5th Council District.

21. Provide the branches and dates of any military service or other public service not otherwise covered in this application. If discharged from the military, state whether the discharge was other than honorable.

I have never served in the military.

22. Describe your community and volunteer service activities, including any organizations (outside the legal profession) with which you are affiliated and any offices held.

In addition to serving on the two appointed commissions described in Question 20, I have been involved with the following community and volunteer activities:

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, Ross T. Roberts Trial Academy. I volunteer as a Master in the Ross T. Roberts Trial Academy (formerly the Ross T. Roberts Inn of Court.) This nine-month long program is designed to improve the trial skills, ethics, and professionalism of practicing attorneys through classroom instruction and mock trial performances. As a Master I critique mock trial performances and provide practical real word advice to attorneys that are seeking to improve their advocacy skills within the courtroom.

Kansas City Youth Court, Member of the Board of Directors. Youth Court is a diversion program for juvenile offenders where they appear with a lawyer before a judge to dispose of their offenses. All of the lawyers and judges in Youth Court are high school students. I work with the students to prepare them for their hearings as well as conduct a class on the basics of criminal law as a part of their training to become Youth Court lawyers.

Generation Rap, Professional Mentor. *Generation Rap,* a weekly radio show produced by high school students on Carter Broadcasting station KPRS 103.3 FM which reaches thousands of listeners. I have been on numerous shows in the past five years discussing

how teens can obtain restraining orders, domestic violence and the strategies to reduce violent crime involving teenagers and young adults. I have also organized courthouse tours for the students and facilitated round table discussions.

Jewish Vocational Services, Volunteer. I served as a volunteer trainer for interpreters interested in working with domestic violence victims within the criminal justice system. In 2010, I was awarded their annual "Special Volunteer Award."

Jackson County Bar Association, Member of the Scholarship Prep Team. I serve as a coach to high school students participating in the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Essay and Oratory Scholarship Competition. Over the past five years I have coached two students who have advanced to the regional finals, and one went on to the national finals.

Association of Women Lawyers, Volunteer. I participate in the Step Up for Women Program, which provides free legal service to women in domestic violence shelters to resolve outstanding warrants and pending Municipal Court charges.

Operation Breakthrough, Volunteer. I have participated in the *Speaker Series* at Operation Breakthrough. The *Speaker Series* seeks to find African-American professionals to come in and speak with inner-city, middle school aged children to introduce them to potential future careers. I spoke to the students about my experiences in the Kansas City, Missouri Public School System, my career path, as well as talking to them about how choosing to become a police officer, attorney or judge may improve our society.

American Mock Trial Association, Volunteer Judge. Served as a judge for undergraduate students participating in a mock trial competition affiliated with University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

23. List any significant honors or awards you have received that otherwise have not been covered in this application.

2012 Urban Summit Young Professionals Award

2011 Missouri Lawyers Weekly Rising Star

2010 Jewish Vocational Services Special Volunteer Award

2009 Louis Lombardo Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney of the Year Award

24. Are you delinquent in the payment of any federal, state, county or city taxes? If so, please explain.

I am not delinquent in the payment of any federal, state, county or city taxes.

25. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or received a suspended imposition of sentence in any federal, state, or military court? If so, please explain and provide the style of the case (including case number), the court, the date of the conviction, and the sentence or fine imposed.

I have never been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or received a suspended imposition of sentence from any court.

26. Have you ever been held in contempt of court? If so, please explain.

I have never been held in contempt of court.

27. Have you ever been sued by a client or been a party to any litigation, other than as a guardian ad litem, plaintiff ad litem, or defendant ad litem? If so, please explain and provide the style of each case, the court, your role as plaintiff or defendant, and the nature and date of disposition.

I have never been sued by a client or been a party to any type of litigation.

28. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for breach of ethics or professional conduct by a court or by any bar association or committee thereof? If so, please explain.

I have never been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or professional conduct.

29. If you are or were a member of the judiciary of the State of Missouri, please state:

(a) Whether an order of reprimand, removal, retirement, suspension or other disciplinary action has ever been entered against you by the Supreme Court of Missouri for breach of the Code of Judicial Conduct or the Canons of Judicial Conduct? If so, explain the details of such breach and the date, nature, and duration of the discipline imposed.

(b) Whether a reprimand or admonishment has ever been entered against you by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline for any of the causes specified in Rule 12.07 of the Supreme Court Rules Governing the Judiciary. If so, explain the details of such cause and the date and nature of the discipline imposed.

(c) Whether, to your knowledge, you are the subject of a complaint that is currently under investigation by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline. If so, explain that nature of such complaint and the status of the investigation.

I have never been a member of the judiciary of the State of Missouri.

31. Provide any additional information that you consider relevant to your qualifications for the office of Circuit Judge.

In 2009, the Kansas City Star published a three-part series entitled *The Murder Factory*, revealing that the 64130 zip code is home to more imprisoned convicted killers than any other zip code in the State of Missouri. This article caught my attention because not only did I grow up within the "Murder Factory" but I am also raising my family in the "Murder Factory." Rather than focus on the various obstacles to success, I have chosen to emulate all of the individuals that have given me amazing opportunities to become successful. First, I was given a good public school education at Lincoln College Preparatory High School in the Kansas City Missouri Public School District. Second, I had countless mentors from all walks of life encourage me to work hard, attend college, study abroad and apply to law school. Third, I have been given job opportunities in public service where I could give back to the community that has given so much to me.

As a prosecutor, I have a tremendous opportunity to serve the community that has given me so much. Using my knowledge of the law and courtroom experience I have served as an adjunct professor in the paralegal studies departments at Metropolitan Community College and National American University. As a mentor, I strive to motivate and inspire young people to achieve greater success and consider careers in public service. In speaking to hundreds of students about making lofty career choices, we inevitably end up discussing what qualities it takes to be a good judge. The resounding answer is always "to be fair." However, I think the answer may be a bit more complex.

I believe that integrity and impartiality are the cornerstones of a quality judiciary. Integrity demands that a judge have the honesty and sound character necessary to respect the parties, litigants, and everyone who comes before the court seeking to resolve a dispute. Each person should have equal access to the courts and be allowed an equal opportunity to present their case. The judge should not interfere with the litigation, but rather remain neutral and impartial until called upon to make a legal determination. I humbly submit that after reviewing my application you will find that I possess these attributes and will work hard to bring honor and distinction to the bench.

32. List the names and contact information (title, mailing address, telephone, and email address) of the **five** persons whom you have requested to provide letters of reference regarding your character and judicial qualifications. Do not list as a reference any judge who currently sits in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

Tammy Dickinson
United States Attorney
United States Attorney's Office
400 E. 9th Street, 5th Floor
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816) 426-3122
Tammy.Dickinson@usdoj.gov

Darryl Forté
Chief of Police
Kansas City Missouri Police Department
1125 Locust
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816) 234-5010
Darryl.Forte@kcpd.org

Mira Mdivani
Corporate Immigration Lawyer
The Mdivani Law Firm, LLC
7007 College Boulevard, Suite 460
Overland Park, Kansas 66211
(913) 317-6200
MMdivani@uslegalimmigration.com

James (Jim) Nunnelly
Jackson County Administrator
3416 E. 59th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64130
(816) 695-4200
Nunnellyjim@yahoo.com

The Honorable John R. O'Malley
United States Immigration Judge
Kansas City Immigration Court
2345 Grand Boulevard, Suite 525
Kansas City, Missouri 64108
(816) 581-5000
John.R.O'Malley@usdoj.gov