

**APPLICATION OF RACHEL L. BRINGER
TO THE APPELLATE JUDICIAL COMMISSION
FOR THE JUDGE SHAW VACANCY
MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS, EASTERN DISTRICT**

***RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IF THE
APPLICANT IS NOMINATED FOR THIS VACANCY***

1. Present principal occupation or title: I am an attorney in private practice in Palmyra, Missouri, and I also serve as State Representative for District Six, which includes portions of Marion and Ralls Counties.

2. Are you at least 30 years of age? Yes (X) No ()

3. (a) How many years have you been a citizen of the United States? 37 years

(b) How many consecutive years immediately preceding your application have you been a qualified voter of Missouri? 19 years

4. State the date you were admitted to The Missouri Bar and whether your license is in good standing. If not, explain in detail. I was admitted to the Bar on April 26, 1996, and my license is in good standing.

5. List any other states, courts, or agencies in which you are licensed as an attorney.
I am licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois and in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri

6. (a) State the name and address of all colleges and universities attended, other than law school, together with the dates and degrees received.

I attended the University of Missouri-Columbia from August 1989 until May 1992, when I received a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in English, with a minor in Political Science.

- (b) List/describe any college or university activities, scholastic achievements and other awards or honors you think are relevant to the commission's decision.

Scholastic Achievements, Awards, and Honors

- Completed undergraduate degree in three years
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 grade point average
- Selected as 1992 University of Missouri-Columbia Graduation Student Marshal
- English Departmental and William Kemp Literature Scholarships
- University of Missouri Curators and "Bright Flight" Scholar
- Private Undergraduate Scholarships: American Legion Oratorical Awards; ITT; Missouri Waste Coalition; American and Missouri Paint Horse Associations
- Everett Stevens Youth Award for 4-H Service
- Member of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- Member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
- Member of Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society
- Member of Golden Key Honor Society

University Activities

- Honors-International House resident: 1989-1992
- Honors Women's Network: President; Vice-President; Founding Member
- Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Chapter: Member and Chairwoman of Philanthropy Committee
- Golden Key Honor Society: Conference Chairwoman
- Intramural Sports: Tennis; Volleyball; Softball
- Baptist Student Union: Music Leader

7. (a) State the name and address of all law schools attended together with the dates and degrees received.

I attended the University of Missouri School of Law from August 1992 until May 1995, when I received a degree of Juris Doctor.

- (b) List/describe any law school activities, scholastic achievements and other awards or honors you think are relevant to the commission's decision.

Scholastic Achievements, Awards, and Honors

- Member of Missouri Law Review
- Walton-Lowe Law School Academic Scholarship
- Weinstein Foundation Law School Academic Scholarship
- Am-Jur Award for Excellence in Secured Transactions
- LSAT Score: 170, 98%

Law School Activities

- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity: Member and Philanthropy Committeewoman
- Christian Legal Society Member
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Competition Finalist
- Boone County Juvenile Office Extern
- Boone County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Intern

8. State, in chronological order (starting with the earliest employment) (a) significant non-law-related employment prior to law school and (b) all employment from the beginning of law school to the present. To the extent reasonably available to you, include the name and address of each employer and the dates of employment, and, for legal employment, describe the positions you have held, e.g., associate, partner, law clerk, general counsel.

Office of the Missouri Attorney General, Public Protection Division

1700 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dates of Employment: Summer of 1991 and Summer of 1992

Position held: Summer Investigative Intern

Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District—The Honorable James R. Reinhard

Current address: 5 Hamlin Heights, Hannibal, MO 63401

Address at time of employment: 111 North 7th Street, St. Louis MO 63101

Dates of Employment: Summer of 1994; 1995-1997

Positions held: Summer intern; Law Clerk

Law Office of Mitchell & Kruse, LLP
Address at time of employment: 120 East Lafayette Street, Palmyra, MO 63461
Dates of Employment: 1997-2000
Position held: Associate

Law Office of Rachel Bringer
Address: 504 South Main, Palmyra, MO 63461
Dates of Employment: 2000-present
Position held: Solo practitioner

Office of the Marion County Prosecuting Attorney
Address: 909 Broadway, Hannibal, MO 63401
Dates of Employment: 2000-2002
Position held: Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

Office of the Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney
Address: One Courthouse Square, Monticello, MO 63457
Dates of Employment: Summer 2002
Position held: Special Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

State of Missouri
Address: 201 West Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO 65101
Dates of Employment: 2003-present
Position held: State Representative, District Six

9. If you were a student at any school from which you were suspended, placed on probation, or expelled by school authorities, for any reason, describe the circumstances.

Not applicable

10. Describe the nature of your experience in trial and appellate courts and explain how they demonstrate the quality of your legal work. (*You either may take as much space as you need here or attach your response on separate sheets*). Include in your response:

- a) **Appellate Experience:** Please include a representative list of cases you have briefed and/or argued (if you are a judge, include representative cases from your practice prior to your judicial appointment) including, to the extent reasonably available to you, the style, date, and court and, if published, the citation; identify the client(s) you represented and opposing counsel; give a one-paragraph description of the case and your role.

In the Interest of Z.M.S. and K.M.S., ED81021 and ED81032 ; Affirmed 2002. I represented the Marion County Juvenile Office in an appeal of a Judgment Terminating Parental Rights. Debora Hale represented the appellant father and Thomas Motley served as Guardian Ad Litem. I tried the case on behalf of the Marion County Juvenile Office, and I subsequently represented the Juvenile Office in the Father's appeal. I filed the Respondent's brief and presented the oral argument for the Respondent in November 2002. The Judgment of the trial court was affirmed.

In the Interest of T.L.G. v. Juvenile Officer, 900 S.W.2d 239 (Mo. App. W.D. 1995). As a law student, I assisted with the drafting of the brief for the Boone County Juvenile Office in an appeal from a finding by the Boone County Juvenile Court that the minor had committed the felony of "knowingly burning." The juvenile court made him a ward of the court in the custody of his maternal grandparents under supervision of the Juvenile Officer. The child appealed. The judgment of the juvenile court was reversed because the appellate court found that there was insufficient evidence to establish beyond a reasonable doubt that the child caused damage to the playground equipment by setting a fire that only singed the wood chips beneath the apparatus.

- b) **Trial-Level Experience:** Please include a representative list of cases and/or administrative hearings you have handled (if you are a judge, include representative cases from your practice prior to your judicial appointment) including, to the extent reasonably available to you, the style, date, and court; identify who you represented and opposing counsel; state whether the case was disposed of following a jury trial, bench trial or at what other stage; give a one-paragraph description of the case and your role.

Representative list of Criminal Cases

State of Missouri v. Ecclesiastes Matthews CR101-4FX

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Year: 2002

Presiding Judge: Judge Ronald R. McKenzie

Charges: Two counts of delivery of a controlled substance near a school

Type of Trial: Jury

Disposition: The defendant was found guilty on both counts and sentenced, as a prior offender, to two consecutive twenty-five year terms in the Department of Corrections. The defendant's conviction was upheld in State v. Matthews, 99 S.W.3d 494 (Mo. App. E.D. 2003), and the defendant's post-conviction relief motion was denied in Matthews v. State, 175 S.W.3d 110 (Mo. 2005).

State of Missouri v. Guy Randolph CR501-506FX

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court in Hannibal

Year: 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge Robert M. Clayton, II

Charge: Statutory Rape

Type of trial: Jury

Disposition: The defendant was found guilty, and the jury recommended a sentence of six months in the Marion County jail and a \$1000 fine. The judge followed the jury's sentencing recommendation.

State v. Pam Voights CR200-188FX

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Year: 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge Carroll Blackwell

Charge: Possession of a controlled substance (Methamphetamine)

Type of Trial: Bench

Disposition: The defendant was found guilty and sentenced to a five-year term in the Missouri Department of Corrections.

State of Missouri v. James Gibson CR301-FX

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court Where Tried: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Year: 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge Robert M. Clayton, II

Charge: Seven counts of Forcible Sodomy

Type of Trial: Preliminary hearing in front of Judge John J. Jackson and subsequent guilty plea

Disposition: The defendant was a sexual predator for many years, and I researched and assisted with the drafting of the pleadings and represented the State of Missouri during the preliminary hearing, which lasted more than one-half day. The defendant was bound over on all counts and subsequently pled guilty to four counts and entered an Alford plea to three counts. The defendant was sentenced to seven consecutive terms totaling eighty years in the Missouri Department of Corrections.

State of Missouri v. Christopher Murray CR201-253FX and CR201-104FX

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Year: 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge Robert M. Clayton, II

Charge: Two counts of felony stealing

Type of Trial: Preliminary hearing in front of Judge John J. Jackson and subsequent guilty plea

Disposition: The defendant embezzled from his employer, a locally owned family business. I researched and drafted the pleadings, and I represented the State of Missouri in the preliminary hearing. The defendant subsequently pled guilty to both counts and was sentenced to serve two five year sentences concurrently in the Missouri Department of Corrections.

State v. Tonya Smallwood CR501-501M

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court Where Tried: Marion County Circuit Court, Associate Division, in Hannibal

Year 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Charge: Assault, third degree

Type of Trial: Bench

Disposition: The defendant was found guilty of third degree assault, and she was sentenced to six months in the Marion County jail. Execution of the sentence was suspended, and the defendant was placed on two years supervised probation and ordered to attend counseling. The defendant's probation was subsequently revoked, and she was sentenced to serve six months in the Marion County jail.

State v. Terry Ellison CR501-790M

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court, Associate Division, in Hannibal

Year 2002

Presiding Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Charge: Assault, third degree

Type of Trial: Bench

Disposition: The defendant was found guilty and sentenced to six months in the Marion County jail. The execution of the sentence was suspended, and the defendant was placed on two years of supervised probation and ordered to complete forty-eight hours of shock incarceration, attend counseling, and pay restitution.

State v. Ernest Strickland CR501-6M

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court, Associate Division, in Hannibal

Year 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Charge: Two counts of assault of a law enforcement officer

Type of Trial: Bench

Disposition: The defendant was found guilty on both counts and was sentenced to ten days in the Marion County jail on the first count, and he was sentenced to one year in the county jail on the second count. Execution of the sentence on the second count was suspended, and the defendant was placed on two years of supervised probation.

State v. Stacy Strickland CR501-7M

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court, Associate Division, in Hannibal

Year 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Charge: Four counts of assault of a law enforcement officer and one count of resisting arrest

Type of Trial: Bench

Disposition: Following the presentation of evidence in the bench trial, the defendant withdrew his not guilty plea and pled guilty to all five counts. The defendant was sentenced to serve thirty days in the Marion County jail on three counts with the sentences to run concurrently. The defendant was also sentenced to serve one year in the Marion County jail on the remaining two counts with the sentences to run concurrently. The one year sentences were suspended, and the defendant was placed on supervised probation for two years.

State v. Ricky Morgan CR501-1006M

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court, Associate Division, in Hannibal

Year 2002

Presiding Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Charge: Careless and Imprudent Driving

Type of Trial: Bench

Disposition: The defendant was found guilty. The imposition of sentence was suspended, the defendant was placed on one year of supervised probation. He was also ordered to attend defensive driving school and perform twenty hours of community service.

State v. James Russell Abbey CR501-912M

Party Represented: State of Missouri

Court where tried: Marion County Circuit Court, Associate Division, in Hannibal

Year 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Charge: Stealing

Type of Trial: Bench

Disposition: Following the presentation of evidence in the bench trial, the defendant withdrew his not guilty plea and pled guilty. The defendant was sentenced to six months in the Marion County jail. The execution of the sentence was suspended, and the defendant was placed on supervised probation for two years and ordered to pay restitution.

Representative List of Civil Cases

Real Estate

Pryor v. Marinaro and Speer CV600-39C

Party Represented: Plaintiff

Court where tried: Lewis County Circuit Court, Monticello

Year: 2001

Presiding Judge: Judge Russell Steele

Opposing Counsel: Fred Cruse

Type of Case: Trespass, Removal of Partition fence, counterclaims for reformation of deed, tortuous interference with contract, and adverse possession

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: By agreement of parties, a bench trial was held on the counterclaim for reformation of deed. The court entered a judgment for plaintiffs, and all other claims were subsequently settled.

Probate

In the Estate of Jennie Lee Whitaker CV797-66P

Party Represented: Co-Personal Representative/Co-Affiant of Small Estate

Court where tried: Lewis County Circuit Court, Probate Division, Monticello

Year: 1998

Presiding Judge: Judge Fred Westhoff

Opposing Counsel: Rickey Roberts

Type of Case: Petition to Determine Title to Personal Property, Petition to Remove Co-Personal Representative, Petition for Distribution of Assets and Sale of Personal Property

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: I represented one co-personal representative whose position on the petitions was shared by ten beneficiaries regarding the distribution of personal property. The personal property included medals issued during the Vietnam War to a son of the decedent who was declared missing in action. Opposing counsel represented one co-personal representative/beneficiary. Following the evidence being presented at a one-day bench trial, a settlement agreement was reached. The settlement agreement included the display of the medals in the Lewis County Courthouse.

In the Estate of Martha Belle Wiseman CV798-21P

Party Represented: Personal Representative

Court: Lewis County Circuit Court, Probate Division

Year: 1998

Presiding Judge: Judge Fred Westhoff

Type of Case: Decedent's Testate Estate

Summary: The activity in the decedent's estate included sale of real estate and personal property, the filing of a federal estate tax return, and the distribution of assets.

In the Estate of Elizabeth Brownell CV702-12P

Party Represented: Personal Representative

Court: Lewis County Circuit Court, Probate Division

Year: 2002

Presiding Judge: Judge Fred Westhoff

Type of Case: Decedent's Intestate Estate

Summary: The activity in the decedent's estate included sale of personal property and the distribution of assets.

In the Estate of Audrey Boehl 06MM-PR00040

Party Represented: Small Estate affiant

Court: Marion County Circuit Court, Probate Division in Palmyra

Year: 2006

Presiding Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Type of Case: Decedent's small estate

Summary: The activity in this case included the sale of personal property, payment of claims, and the distribution of assets.

Guardianship/Conservatorship

In the Matter of LFS 05LE-PR00010

Party Represented: Petitioners

Court: Lewis County Circuit Court, Probate Division

Year: 2005

Presiding Judge: Judge Fred Westhoff

Type of Case: Petition for Guardianship and Conservatorship of a Minor Child

Summary: Following the death of the minor's mother, I represented the maternal grandparents in their petition for guardianship and conservatorship of the child. Immediately prior to the hearing, the father and stepfather both consented to the petition.

Landlord/Tenant

Leveck v. Brunk CV200-32AC

Party Represented: Plaintiff

Court: Clark County Circuit Court, Associate Division

Year: 2000

Presiding Judge: Judge John Moon

Type of Case: Rent and Possession

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: Following a bench trial, judgment was entered for the plaintiff.

Torts

A.B. by C.D. and E.F. v. Rodney Robertson CV398-12CC

Party Represented: Plaintiff/minor

Court: Macon County Circuit Court in Macon

Year: 1998

Opposing Counsel: Ed Campbell

Type of Case: Fifteen count petition for damages against a perpetrator of sexual abuse

Summary: Following a lengthy discovery process and mediation, the matter was settled by payment of damages to the minor plaintiff.

Family Law

S. v. S. CV199-47DR

Party Represented: Respondent/Mother

Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Judge: Judge Carroll Blackwell

Year: 2000

Opposing Counsel: Debora Hale

Type of Case: Dissolution of Marriage with one child

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: Respondent/Mother received physical custody, maintenance, child support, and attorney's fees. The marital property was divided by the court, and the court approved the mother's request to relocate with the child out of state.

G. v. G., et al 05MMCV00055

Party represented: Petitioner/father

Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Year: 2005

Opposing Counsel: Neil Maune

Type of Case: Dissolution of Marriage with children, paternity

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: After a bench trial had proceeded for three-fourths of a day, the parties settled. Father received custody of the child of the marriage, a paternity declaration was entered, and the marital property was divided pursuant to the parties' agreement.

A. v. O. CV190-55DR

Party Represented: Movant/father

Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Year: 1998

Opposing Counsel: Charles Stine

Type of Case: Motion to Modify Custody

Summary: Following extensive discovery, temporary motions, and mediation, the parties reached a settlement agreement in which legal and physical custody of a nine-year-old boy was changed from mother to father.

A. v. A. CV397-581DR

Party represented: Guardian ad Litem for four children

Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Hannibal

Judge: Judge Robert M. Clayton, II

Year: 1999

Opposing Counsel: Father-Charles Stine, Mother-Stan Platke, Grandparents-Neil Maune

Type of Case: Dissolution of Marriage with Children, grandparent visitation

Summary: Following extensive discovery and temporary motions, the parties settled the matter. Mother received legal and physical custody of the children. Father was subsequently incarcerated in a federal correctional facility for possession of child pornography.

(H.) T. v. H. CV393-210DR

Party represented: Guardian Ad Litem for the children

Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Hannibal

Judge: Judge Robert M. Clayton, II

Year: 2000

Opposing Counsel: Debora Hale for Father, David Horowitz for mother,

Type of Case: Motion to modify custody of children

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: Following a bench trial, the court modified custody of the children and awarded custody of the children to the father based on findings of neglect by the mother and lack of care and a proper environment for an autistic child. The court granted the father's motion to relocate with the children out of state.

Juvenile

In the Interest of TMM, JU398-34JU and JLM, JU398-35JU

Party represented: Mother

Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Hannibal, Juvenile Division

Judge: Judge Glenn Norton

Year 1998

Opposing Counsel: Neil Maune, Marion County Juvenile Office

Type of Case: Placement of children in alternative care

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: The mother suffered from Freidreich's ataxia, a degenerative disease of the nervous system. Following a bench trial, custody of the two children was returned to the mother. She subsequently died one year later, in 1999, at the age of thirty-five, and she retained custody of her children until her death.

In the matter of S.J.R. JU800-2A

Party represented: Guardian ad Litem for child

Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Hannibal, Juvenile Division

Judge: Judge Robert M. Clayton, II

Year 2001

Opposing Counsel: Neil Maune and Don Bastian

Type of Case: Involuntary termination of parental rights and adoption

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: Following a bench trial, the court found that the father had abandoned the child and terminated his parental rights. The child was subsequently adopted by her stepfather.

In Re B.D.N., JU199-4J, and D.J.G.N., JU199-2J

Party represented: Guardian ad Litem for minor children

Court Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Hannibal, Juvenile Division

Judge: Judge David Mobley

Year 2001

Opposing Counsel: Marion County Juvenile Office, appointed counsel for parents

Type of Case: Jurisdiction of Juvenile Court

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: Following a bench trial, the Juvenile Court found that it had jurisdiction over two children who had been temporarily living in Illinois. The children were placed in relative placement in Missouri.

In the matter of M.V.C., JU100-4J and M.D.C., JU100-3J

Party represented: Guardian ad Litem for minor children

Court Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Hannibal, Juvenile Division

Judge: Judge David Mobley

Year 2000

Opposing Counsel: Marion County Juvenile Office, Tom Motley for the mother

Type of Case: Jurisdiction of Juvenile Court, subsequently Termination of Parental Rights

Type of Trial: Bench

Summary: Following a hearing regarding jurisdiction, the juvenile court found that it had jurisdiction over the minor children, who were placed in foster care. Numerous hearings following regarding reunification efforts. Parental rights were eventually terminated, and following one failed adoptive placement, the minor children were adopted by foster parents.

Paternity

M.S. v. L.J., J.J., and M.J. CV198-148DR

Party represented: Petitioner/father

Court Court: Marion County Circuit Court in Palmyra

Judge: Judge John J. Jackson

Year 1998

Opposing Counsel: Jack Inghram IV, Charles Adams

Type of Case: Declaration of paternity

Type of Trial: Contested hearing on motion to dismiss

Summary: Petitioner sought a declaration of paternity. Following a contested hearing on the Motion to Dismiss, the court denied the motion, in part because of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act. Following extensive discovery, the matter was settled. In accordance with the settlement agreement, a judgment was entered which declared father's paternity, set forth a visitation schedule, and resulted in the adoption of the child by her stepfather.

Social Security—Disability

In the Matter of L.B. DDS case number 98487

Party represented: Claimant

Administrative Agency: Social Security Administration

Judge: Administrative Law Judge Robert Ritter

Year 1998

Type of Case: Appeal of initial denial of claim for social security disability

Type of Trial: Contested hearing

Summary: Following a hearing to determine the claimant's disability, the Judge entered a finding fully favorable to claimant.

Bankruptcy

In Re C.M. and J.M. Case No. 00-20237-172

Party represented: Debtors

Court: U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Missouri, Northern Division

Judge: Judge James J. Barta

Year: 2000

Type of Case: Chapter 7 Bankruptcy

Summary: The U.S. Bankruptcy Court issued a discharge to the debtors, whose debts were primarily medical debt and consumer debt.

- c) **Judicial Experience:** If you are a judge, commissioner, or are serving or have served in other judicial capacity, please describe the nature and extent of your judicial responsibilities, including the dates you have served as a judge at each level, the types of dockets you have handled, and any special expertise you have developed that you believe is relevant to your qualifications for the position for which you are applying.

I served as a law clerk for James R. Reinhard, a judge on the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District from 1995 until 1997. I also served as an intern for Judge Reinhard during the summer of 1994. During my internship and clerkship with Judge

Reinhard, I served as the law clerk on more than 180 cases in the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District.

11. Describe any additional legal experience that you believe may be relevant to the decision of the commission (e.g., work as a law professor, in government, as corporate or other legal counsel).

Presenter at numerous legislative update panels for the Missouri Bar Association and the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis

Presenter at numerous student panels and classes at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law

Judged Client Counseling Competition at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law

Performed many hours of pro bono work for numerous community organizations and indigent Missourians

12. List all bar associations and other professional societies of which you are a member, with any offices held and dates.

Missouri Bar Association: 1996-present

Member: Missouri Public Defender Task Force

Missouri Court Automation Task Force

Illinois Bar Association: 1997-present

Tenth Circuit Bar Association: 1997-present; Secretary 1998

13. List any professional articles or books authored by you that have been published or any special recognition or award of a professional nature you have received.

University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law Honorary Order of the Coif: 2008

NAACP—Hannibal Branch: Service Award for Civil Rights: 2006

Missouri Bar Legislative Achievement Award: 2003

Missouri Judicial Conference Legislative Achievement Award: 2005, 2009

Missouri Girl Scouts Woman of Distinction: 2008

American Legion, Hannibal Chapter—United States Army Department of Defense Freedom Salute Award: 2008

Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital Legislative Award: 2008

Missouri Multiple Sclerosis Society Legislative Award: 2008

Missouri Council of School Administrators Legislative Award: 2008

Missouri Farm Bureau Friend of Agriculture Award: 2004, 2006, 2008

Business and Professional Women, Hannibal Chapter, Woman of the Year: 2007

Palmyra High School Homecoming Parade Marshall: 2009

14. Describe your community activities, including any organizations not listed elsewhere with which you are affiliated.

South Union Baptist Church—pianist, assistant organist, former Sunday School Teacher, Former Bible School Teacher

Palmyra Kiwanis Club: Current member and former member of the Board of Directors; former co-chairwoman of Summer Baseball program

Palmyra Chamber of Commerce: Current Member and former member of the Board of Directors; “Taste of Palmyra” volunteer; “Christmas in Palmyra” Volunteer

Mark Twain Home Foundation Board: Current Member and Chairwoman of the Property and Acquisitions Committee

Hannibal-LaGrange College: Former Member and Secretary of Board of Trustees and Executive Committee

American Red Cross, Northeast Missouri Chapter: Former Member of the Board of Directors

Northeast Missouri Humane Society: Former Member of the Board of Directors

Member of P.E.O., Palmyra chapter

Member of the Women’s Club of Hannibal

Hosted home tours for the Palmyra Heritage Seekers and Friends of Historic Hannibal

American Legion Oratorical Contest: Volunteer Judge

Hannibal Arts Council: River Arts Festival volunteer

Hannibal Nutrition Center: Folklife Festival volunteer

Hannibal Jaycees: Tom Sawyer Days Festival volunteer

Boy Scouts of Missouri: Merit Badge instructor

Ralls County Relay for Life Volunteer

Member of Ducks Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, and Whitetails Unlimited

Mt. Salem/Wyaconda Baptist Association: Former member of Bylaws Committee; 2008 Parliamentarian for Annual Meeting

Marion County Democratic Club: Member and Former Secretary

Ralls County Democratic Club: Member

Missouri Democrat Days: Emcee; former co-auditor

I also have the opportunity to provide music or play the piano for many community events, including church fellowship events, nursing home events, chamber events, children's events, and meetings of various community organizations.

In the Fall of 2008, I served as the Speech Instructor for a Hannibal-LaGrange College dual-credit course at Palmyra High School. During that time, I coached thirty-three students in the American Legion Oratorical Contest and two students in the Veterans of Foreign War "Voice of Democracy" Contest. The Palmyra High School winner of the Voice of Democracy Contest won the multi-county contest. The Palmyra High School winner of the American Legion Oratorical Contest won the County, District, and Zone contests and received second place in the state contest on February 21st.

15. Do you now hold or have you ever held an elective or an appointive public office or position? If yes, provide details.

Yes, I have been elected to serve as the Missouri State Representative for District Six in 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008. During my years in the legislature, I have served on the following committees:

Judiciary

Budget

Appropriations for Elementary, Secondary, and Higher Education

Appropriations for Agriculture, Conservation, and Natural Resources

Agriculture Policy

Fiscal Review

Rural Community Development

Job Creation and Economic Development

Crime Prevention and Public Safety

Joint Committee for Education

Joint Committee for Court Automation

Joint Committee for Legislative Research

Joint Committee for Hazardous Waste
Special Standing Committee for Emerging Issues in Animal Agriculture
Special Committee for Parliamentary Procedure and Rules
Interim Committee on Electric Service Territories and Economic
Development
Interim Committee on Missouri State High School Activities Association Reform

I was also appointed to serve as Marion County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney from 2000 until 2002 and Special Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Lewis County during the Spring and Summer of 2002. In addition, I was appointed by the Marion County Commission to serve as a member of the Marion County Port Authority from 2000 until 2002.

16. Provide the branches and dates of (a) military service or (b) other public service not otherwise disclosed in this application. If discharged from the military, state whether the discharge was other than honorable.

Not applicable

17. State whether you are able, with or without a reasonable accommodation, to perform the essential functions of being an appellate judge, including participating in oral argument; performing legal research; communicating clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing; supervising the lower courts, serving on court committees and performing other administrative functions; and expeditiously deciding issues coming before the court.

Yes, I am able to perform the essential functions of being an appellate judge.

18. Were you ever refused admission to the bar of Missouri or the bar of another state or the federal courts? If yes, provide details.

Not applicable

19. Have you ever been disciplined, admonished or cited for breach of ethics or professional conduct by the Supreme Court of Missouri or by any court or bar association or committee thereof? If yes, provide details.

Not applicable

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

- a) Whether an order of discipline ever has 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 yes, provide details.

Not applicable

- b) Whether a reprimand or admonition ever has been entered against you by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline for any of the causes specified in Supreme Court Rule 12.07. If yes, provide details.

Not applicable

21. Have you have ever been held in contempt of court? If yes, provide details.

Not applicable

22. Have you ever been sued by a client or been a party to any other litigation, other than as guardian ad litem, plaintiff ad litem, or defendant ad litem?

If your answer is yes, state the style of the case, where it was filed, and explain in detail. If you are a judge and you have been sued in your judicial capacity, list only those cases where you are or were other than a nominal party.

Not applicable

23. Have you ever been convicted or received a suspended imposition of sentence for a felony or misdemeanor in state, federal or military court? (*Note that this question does not require that traffic offenses or other infractions be listed.*)

If your answer is yes, state the style of the case, where it was filed, and explain in detail.

Not applicable

24. Are you delinquent in the payment of any federal, state, county or city taxes? If yes, provide details.

Not applicable

25. You must attach to this application at least one, but not more than three, writing samples that comply with the requirements set out in the instructions for applicants.

See attached writing samples

26. List/describe any additional honors or awards you have received, activities you have performed, or any other information not set out above that demonstrates the quality of your work as an attorney or that you otherwise believe is relevant to the commission's decision.

During the past six and one-half years, I have also assisted more than 7,000 constituents with concerns and issues regarding state government and organized numerous public meetings regarding various issues, including Medicare Part D enrollment and the FEMA flood mitigation and buy-out process. I have also had the opportunity to organize and host three legislative prayer breakfasts for Marion and Ralls Counties.

As a member of the Missouri House of Representatives, I have passed several legislative proposals, including, but not limited to, the following: a law closing a sentencing loophole for persistent drug offenders; a law restructuring the hazardous waste fee to benefit Missouri businesses, including Continental Cement; a law removing the birth certificate requirement for senior citizens renewing a Missouri driver's license; a law increasing the time for detention without a warrant to twenty-four hours; a law simplifying the procedure for rural water districts to obtain easements; a law providing higher education tuition waivers for foster children; a law adding certain drug-related activity to the crime of endangering the welfare of a child; a law amending the school funding formula to benefit school districts located in more than one county, such as Monroe City School District; a law eliminating redundant background checks for school teachers; a law enabling records of pseudoephedrine purchases to be used as evidence in cases involving the manufacture of controlled substances; and a law allowing local public nursing home districts to build senior apartments.

Please list the names of *five* persons whom you will ask to provide letters of reference for you with respect to your judicial qualifications. Do **not** list as a reference a judge of the court involved. As to each of the (5) references, **please provide name, title, mailing address, telephone and e-mail address.** *Please note that it is your responsibility to contact your references,* although if you intend to use as a reference a federal judge or other individual who only can provide a reference upon a specific request by the interviewing authority, please advise the commission and it will send that reference such a request. As to all references, it is your responsibility to see that they send the requested letters in a timely manner.

Provide your references with the attached Guidelines for References. The commission must receive your letters of reference, **via e-mail**, to EDjudgevacancy@courts.mo.gov, by the date indicated in the Instructions to Applicants.

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***AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF AND CERTIFICATION
OF ACCURACY OF INFORMATION***

By my signature on this form, I certify that all statements made in my application and attachments thereto are correct and that if I am selected by the commission and appointed to the office for which I seek appointment, I will accept the appointment, qualify, and promptly enter upon the performance of the duties of that office as provided by law.

By my signature to this form, I further authorize (1) the commission by its chairperson to obtain relevant information, including but not limited to documents, records, and files about me from educational, law enforcement and disciplinary authorities and from employers and others who may have control of any documents, records, or other information pertaining to my application and suitability for the appointment I am seeking, and (2) the commission and its members to make such additional inquiries and to receive and share amongst themselves such additional information they shall deem appropriate in determining my qualifications for the position for which I seek appointment and the accuracy of my responses to the questions in this application and in otherwise fulfilling its duties. The information obtained under (1) and (2) above shall be made available only to the members of the Appellate Judicial Commission and their staff as necessary to perform their duties.

Notwithstanding the above, by my signature on this form, and in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 10, if I am one of the three nominees listed on the certificate of nomination sent to the governor, I authorize the commission to: (1) send a complete copy of this application and attachments to the governor and (2) publicly release a copy of the application and attachments, so as to inform the public as to my qualifications for the position for which I am applying, and

thereby waive any objections and rights I have with reference to the privacy of all information contained in the answers and attachments to this form, with the exception of the cover page (which contains personal and confidential identifying addresses, telephone numbers and similar information).

This authorization shall remain in full force and effect until revoked by me in writing.

By: Rachel L. Bringer (via electronic signature)

Dated: August 27, 2009