SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE 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.

   Janette Kay Rodecap

2. State your date and location of birth.

   September 24, 1974; Decorah, Iowa

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

   Trial Team Leader, Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, 415 E. 12th Street, 11th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64106

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

   (a) Are you at least twenty-five 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 an Associate 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.

   Yes, I am fully capable of performing the essential functions of an Associate 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.

I was admitted to the Missouri Bar in 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.

Iowa – I am an inactive member of the Iowa Bar. I was and always had been in good standing when I took inactive status.

Florida – I am a retired member of the Florida Bar. I was and always had been in good standing when I retired.

United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri – I am an inactive member. I was and always had been in good standing when I took inactive status.

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

(a) Name and location of institution

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

(b) Dates attended and degrees received

1993-1997; Bachelor of Arts; Major in European history, Minor in philosophy.

1995-1996; Studied abroad at the University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, England.

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

Graduated Summa Cum Laude; Phi Beta Kappa; Dean's List every quarter; National Merit Scholar.

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

(a) Name and location of law school

The University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa.

(b) Dates attended and degrees received

1998-2001; Juris Doctor with distinction.

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

Graduated With Distinction, in the top 15% of my law school class.

***Journal of Transnational Law and Contemporary Problems*; writer (1999-2000), Senior Note and Comment Editor (2000-2001).**

Van Oosterhout Moot Court Competition Semifinalist; received Best Oralist award.

University of Iowa Legal Clinic, Student Legal Intern and Extern; received Michelle R. Bennett Client Representation Award.

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

No, I have never been suspended or expelled as a student.

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.

Teleview Systems Cable Television Company, 207 W. Pearl Street, Decorah, IA 52101. Secretary and Receptionist, May to September 1993. Voluntarily left to go to college.

Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, 502 W. Water Street, Decorah, IA 52101. Iowa Conservation Corps, Museum Maintenance Crew, June to August 1994. Voluntarily left to return to college.

Northwestern University Media Center, 1935 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201. Federal Work Study, Media Aide, September 1994 to June 1995. Voluntarily left at the end of my sophomore year to return to my hometown for the summer.

Cliff House Hotel and Restaurant, Intersection of Highways 9 and 52, Decorah, IA 52101. Waitress, June to July 1995. Voluntarily left to focus on my employment at Video Warehouse.

Viking Theater / Video Warehouse, 109 Mechanic Street, Decorah, IA 52101.

Theater Employee and Video Store Clerk, June to October 1995. Voluntarily left to study abroad in England.

Viking Theater / Video Warehouse, 109 Mechanic Street, Decorah, IA 52101. Theater Employee and Video Store Clerk, June to September 1996. Voluntarily left to return to college.

Northwestern University Media Center, 1935 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201. Federal Work Study, Media Aide, September 1996 to June 1997. Voluntarily left when I graduated from Northwestern University.

Champion Recruitment, 55 Cornmarket Street, Oxford, England. Temporary Secretary, August 1997 to February 1998. Voluntarily left when my six-month work visa expired.

Putnam Law Office, 518 Montgomery Street, Decorah, IA 52101. Legal Secretary, March to July 1998. Voluntarily left to start law school.

Stinson, Mag & Fizzell (now Stinson, Leonard, Street), 1201 Walnut Street, Kansas City, MO 64106. Summer Associate, May to August 1999. Voluntarily left to return to law school.

Iowa State Attorney General's Office, 2nd Floor, Hoover Building, 1305 E. Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50319. Legal Intern, May to July 2000. Voluntarily left to split summer with Stinson, Mag & Fizzell.

Stinson, Mag & Fizzell (now Stinson, Leonard, Street), 1201 Walnut Street, Kansas City, MO 64106. Summer Associate, July to August 2000. Voluntarily left to return to law school.

U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri, 400 E. 9th Street, Room 7452, Kansas City, MO 64106. Judicial Clerk to the Honorable Nanette K. Laughrey, August 2001-August 2003. Voluntarily left at the end of two year term.

Palau Supreme Court, P.O. Box 248, Koror, Palau 96940. Court Counsel, October 2003 to September 2004. Voluntarily left at the end of one year term.

State Attorney's Office, 20th Judicial Circuit, 1700 Monroe Street, P.O. Box 399, Fort Myers, FL 33902. Assistant State Attorney, March 2005 to April 2006. Voluntarily left to accept position at the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office.

Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, 415 E. 12th Street, 11th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64106. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, May 1, 2006 to present.

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 extensive experience as a practicing attorney in the 16th Judicial Circuit. I appear in those courtrooms almost every day, often for substantive hearings on everything from bond hearings to sentencings. I have tried 17 jury trials and 11 bench trials as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, and I tried a majority of those cases as the lead attorney. I have engaged in trial preparation for hundreds of other cases by meeting with victims and witnesses, responding to discovery requests, defending depositions, organizing exhibits, drafting jury instructions and motions *in limine*, researching potential legal issues and defenses, and conducting all phases of trial from *voir dire* to closing arguments. I understand the amount of work and time that an attorney invests in each case, and I know how important it is for each litigant to feel like they have had their day in court. I also understand the daily challenges faced by practicing attorneys, from discovery disputes to scheduling issues. I have learned from my own experience the importance of being prepared, treating others with respect and courtesy, and giving attorneys the opportunity to present their evidence and arguments in a fair hearing.

I currently serve as a Trial Team Leader in the General Crimes Unit of the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office. In addition to carrying a caseload of 25 to 30 cases, ranging from homicides, to sex crimes, to drug and property crimes cases, I also supervise eight attorneys and five support staff. My supervisory duties include training, answering questions, providing guidance on offers and charging decisions, evaluating performance, adjusting workloads, taking disciplinary action, overseeing special projects, and communicating with outside agencies like KCPD. I currently handle the early disposition docket, which requires me to quickly assess cases and negotiate with opposing counsel to resolve them. I am also one of the violent crimes on call attorneys, and I attend homicide meetings to collaborate with other senior members of my office in making homicide charging decisions. This experience has improved my problem-solving skills and taught me to be confident and decisive under pressure. My supervisory experience has also improved my administrative and managerial skills.

I was previously assigned to the Special Victim's Unit of the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, where I handled adult and child sex crimes, child abuse, interference with custody, sex offender registration, and domestic violence cases. I frequently made charging decisions, which required me to make credibility determinations about victims and witnesses, analyze evidence from different sources such as police reports, lab reports, medical records, Children's Division records, and Child Protection Center interviews, and apply the law to the facts to determine the appropriate charges. I often met with victims and witnesses to discuss one of the most traumatic and emotional events in their lives. Due to the nature of these cases, the victim and the defendant are often members of the same family, which creates complicated family dynamics and conflicting feelings. This experience demonstrates my

ability to work with non-attorneys by listening to their concerns and explaining the process and the law to them in a respectful and compassionate way. It also shows my ability to make credibility determinations and analyze information from many different sources to draw accurate legal conclusions.

I was previously assigned to the Street Crimes Unit for six years, where I managed an average caseload of 40 to 50 felony trial cases consisting of homicides, assaults, robberies, drug offenses, and driving offenses. I also handled a weekly probation violation docket, where I worked collaboratively with probation officers, defense attorneys, and the judge to determine how to best resolve each violation. In addition, I made charging decisions on hundreds of cases and served as a primary legal researcher for the office. During my first two years in the office, I managed a large driving docket in Associate Circuit Court, which required a great deal of preparation and organization to allow me to efficiently resolve as many cases as possible. As a direct result of my experience handling the driving docket, I wrote a DWR diversion proposal that became the basis for the DWR County Court. This experience exemplifies my strong work ethic and my ability to be organized and efficient in order to effectively handle a heavy caseload. I also developed the negotiation skills that are necessary to resolve cases and work well with opposing counsel.

Before I joined the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, I gained my first trial experience at the State Attorney's Office in Fort Myers, Florida. I managed an average caseload of 300 to 350 misdemeanor cases, and I would have up to 60 cases set for trial any given week. As a result, I was lead or secondary counsel in 15 jury trials and 7 bench trials in less than fourteen months. I also handled ongoing responsibilities such as filing cases, representing the State at first appearances and arraignments, responding to motions and discovery requests, and handling a probation violation docket on top of my trial caseload. This experience taught me how to think on my feet, be a supportive team player, and efficiently handle many different tasks simultaneously to carry this workload.

My previous experience as a judicial clerk to Federal District Court Judge Nanette Laughrey and to the Supreme Court of Palau exposed me to a broad range of complex legal issues and encouraged me to think like an impartial judge rather than as an advocate. Most of my Federal workload consisted of drafting preliminary decisions on motions for summary judgment in civil cases. I was responsible for thoroughly reviewing the court file and pleadings, researching the legal issues raised by the parties, and applying the law accurately and impartially in the orders that I drafted for the Court. I had to learn vastly different areas of the law quickly and, in my work in Palau, I even had to learn a new legal system as I worked to synthesize customary Palauan law with U.S. Federal law. In addition, the Western District of Missouri was already using an electronic case management and filing system, so I am familiar with accessing court documents and filings in an electronic format. My experience as a judicial clerk has given me strong research and writing skills, a familiarity with civil litigation, and an ability to learn new areas of the law quickly that will be crucially important as a judge in the 16th Judicial Circuit.

My experience as a practicing attorney has instilled in me a strong work ethic, self-discipline, and a strong motivation to succeed. I have changed jobs from a judicial clerk to a prosecutor, and from a street crimes prosecutor to a sex crimes prosecutor. Each time, I had to master a new area of the law very quickly. These experiences will help me to perform well under the pressure of a heavy caseload and to learn the applicable law quickly so that I can perform the functions of the position immediately upon appointment as a judge.

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.

Jury trials

State of Missouri v. Leeric McClenton, Case No. 0516-CR04193, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 4, Judge Justine Del Muro. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. The defendant was charged with selling drugs to an undercover police officer. The jury acquitted the defendant of Sale of a Controlled Substance (B Felony) on September 18, 2006.

State of Missouri v. James E. Lee, Case No. 04CR203702, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 4, Judge Justine Del Muro. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. The police stopped the defendant in a car with almost 10 grams of crack cocaine in a bag wedged between the front seats and over $1300 cash in his pocket. The jury found the defendant guilty of Trafficking in the First Degree (B Felony) on July 9, 2007.

State of Missouri v. Brandon Howell, Case No. 0616-CR03061, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 15, Judge Robert Schieber. Represented the State of Missouri, 2nd Chair. This was a ten-year-old circumstantial murder case, with no eyewitnesses, in which the defendant was the last person to be seen with the two teenage victims alive. The male victim was found buried in a shallow grave behind a house the defendant was renovating, and the female victim was never found. After more than a day of deliberations, the jury acquitted the defendant of Murder in the First Degree as to Nicholas Travis and Murder in the First Degree as to Tabitha Brewer on March 9, 2009.

State of Missouri v. Marcellus Williams, Case No. 0716-CR01382, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 9, Judge Joel Fahnestock. Represented the State of Missouri, 2nd Chair. The victim was waiting with her two-year-old daughter at a bus stop when the defendant attacked her, dragged her behind a building and tried to rape her. A passerby intervened and the victim was able to escape and get herself and her daughter into the witnesses' car. The witness then followed the defendant in her car as she called the police. The jury found the defendant guilty of Attempted Forcible Rape, Kidnapping, and two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child on May 14, 2009.

State of Missouri v. Keith Hudson, Case No. 0916-CR00662, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 13, Judge Daugherty. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. The defendant was accused of robbing the victim at gunpoint after the victim gave him a ride in his truck. The jury acquitted the defendant of Robbery I and Armed Criminal Action on August 12, 2009.

State of Missouri v. Jovell Swopes, Case No. 0816-CR03404, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 8, Judge Peggy Stevens McGraw. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. The defendant was accused of shooting the victim in front of several witnesses, none of whom wanted to testify. Eventually, I was able to win their trust and all of the eyewitnesses testified at trial. The jury found the defendant guilty of Assault II (C Felony) and Armed Criminal Action on August 27, 2009.

State of Missouri v. Blanche Johnson, Case No. 0916-CR05594, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 18, Judge Brian Wimes. Represented the State of Missouri, 2nd Chair. The defendant was accused of shooting her estranged girlfriend to death as they sat in the victim's van. The defendant confessed, but then testified at trial that an unknown assailant came up to the van and shot the victim. The jury found the defendant guilty of Murder II (A Felony) and Armed Criminal Action on August 19, 2010.

State of Missouri v. Anthony Perkins, Case No. 0916-CR04089, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 19, Judge Kathleen Forsyth. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. The defendant was accused of driving while intoxicated and driving with a revoked license when he collided with two oncoming cars full of teenagers. The jury found the defendant guilty of DWI (B Felony) and DWR (D Felony) as a prior and persistent offender on February 16, 2011.

State of Missouri v. Micah Riggs, Case No. 1116-CR01176, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 12, Judge Edith Messina. Represented the State of Missouri, 2nd Chair. This was the first K2, or synthetic marijuana, case taken to trial in Jackson County Circuit Court. The case involved testimony by two chemists regarding the chemical structure of K2 and its analogs. The jury acquitted the defendant of Possession of a Controlled Substance with the Intent to Sell (B Felony), and could not reach a verdict on Possession of a Chemical with the Intent to Create a Controlled Substance (C Felony) on March 14, 2013.

State of Missouri v. Umar Muhammad, Case No. 1116-CR02310, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 8, Judge Peggy Stevens McGraw. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. The defendant was accused of shooting the victim to death in front of his best friend and only eyewitness, and then shooting at the eyewitness as he fled from the scene. The eyewitness was so afraid that he relocated to California, and I was unable to find him until a couple of weeks before trial. I convinced him to return to Kansas City to testify, and his testimony allowed us to secure a conviction. The jury convicted the defendant of Murder II (A Felony); Assault I (B Felony), and two counts of Armed Criminal Action on August 1, 2013, and recommended a sentence of 30 years in prison, which the Judge imposed.

Bench Trials

State of Missouri v. Claude Ford/Gross, Case No. 0816-CR00767, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 18, Judge Brian Wimes. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. The defendant was accused of shooting his neighbor in the head when she came over to his house to buy drugs. The defendant testified that the shooting was accidental, but the judge found him guilty of Murder II (A Felony) and Armed Criminal Action on February 24, 2010.

State of Missouri v. Michael Cushingberry, Case No. 1016-CR00146, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 6, Judge J. Dale Youngs. Represented the State of Missouri, 1st Chair. This was a murder for hire, in which a high-level member of a Mexican drug cartel paid the defendant and the victim's cousin $10,000 to kill the victim in retaliation for stealing drugs from the cartel. The judge found the defendant guilty of Murder II (A Felony) and Armed Criminal Action on February 8, 2011.

State of Missouri v. Charles Greenlaw, Case No. 1116-CR03508, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 15, Judge Robert Schieber. Represented the State of Missouri, 2nd Chair. This was a cold hit DNA case from December 1, 1980. The victim was also raped during the course of the robbery, but the statute of limitations had run on the rape. Due to the age of the case, we had to overcome difficulties with proving chain of custody, deceased witnesses, and prior inconsistent statements made over 30 years ago. The judge found the defendant not guilty of Robbery I (A Felony) on September 14, 2012.

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.

Not applicable.

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.

Not applicable.

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.

Canon 1, Rule 2-1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct directs judges to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the judiciary and the legal profession. I am committed to using my legal experience to make a positive contribution to our profession and enhance its reputation in our community. I am grateful to my mentors, some of them judges, who taught me how to be a better attorney by their example. In turn, I believe I have a responsibility to mentor new attorneys. I previously fulfilled that responsibility by serving as the supervisor of the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office intern program. I selected, trained, and evaluated the interns, and I was rewarded by watching them develop increased confidence and improved legal skills. I now mentor newer attorneys in my office as a Trial Team Leader. I hope to continue to promote ethical conduct and professionalism in the practice of law if I am appointed to be a judge.

A good judge humbly remembers that they are a public servant. I have had an opportunity to serve the community in which I live through my work with Neighborhood Prosecution. I regularly attend neighborhood meetings in Center City and Hyde Park to meet with residents and respond to their questions and concerns. I then reach out to police officers, municipal employees, child welfare officials or other agencies as the need arises to strategize solutions to the community's problems. As a result of my efforts, I received the 2012 Neighborhood Prosecutor of the Year award. My ability to facilitate communication and problem solving in a racially, socially, and economically diverse community led directly to my success in this program, and those skills will help me succeed as a judge.

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.

The Iowa Bar Association, 2001 to 2003 (inactive).

The Florida Bar, 2005 to 2006 (retired).

United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri, 2002 to 2005 (inactive).

Western District of Missouri Federal Law Clerk Society, 2008 to present.

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, 2013 to present.

Association for Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City, May 2013 to present.

Participant, AWL Step Up for Women Program, 2013.

Member, AWL Golf Committee, 2013.

Mentor, AWLF Connections, 2013 to present.

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

Presenter and Moderator, Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, "Strangulation Prevention and Domestic Violence Training." (January 2014).

Presenter, Missouri Reentry Conference, "Jackson County Parole Reentry: Out Of the Box." (November 2013).

Guest Lecturer, Rockhurst University, "Prosecution and the Law." (October 2013).

Presenter, Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, "Overview of the Criminal Justice System for Interns." (August 2010, May 2011, August 2011, May 2012, August 2012, May 2013, August 2013).

Volunteer Judge, American Association of Justice Regional Trial Competition (March 2011).

Volunteer Judge, UMKC School of Law Trial Advocacy Competition (April 2010).

DWI Prosecution Instructor, KCPD Police Academy (March 2010).

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

No, I have never held any elective or appointive public office or position.

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.

Northwestern University Alumni Club, member (2010-present).
Alumni interviewer of prospective students, January 2011, January 2012, and January 2014.
Speaker at college fair for prospective students, June 4, 2012.
Attended board meetings and welcome party for admitted students.

Kauffman Scholars Mentor, Big Brothers Big Sisters (May 2009-August 2011).
Matched with a student at Northeast High School who was interested in becoming an attorney. Planned activities with her at least once a month like going out to eat, shopping, going to a play, or attending sporting events. Frequently discussed school, college applications, and generally what was going on in her life over the phone. Match ended when she left for college in the fall of 2011.

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

2012 Neighborhood Prosecutor of the Year Award for my work with the Center City and Hyde Park Neighborhood Associations.

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

No, I am not delinquent in the payment of any 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.

No, I have not been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or received a suspended imposition of sentence in any federal, state, or military court.

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

No, 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.

No, I have never been sued by a client or been a party to any 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.

No, I have never been disciplined or cited for 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 Associate Circuit Judge.

My entire legal career has been dedicated to serving the public. I look forward to continuing that service by becoming a judge. A good judge is decisive, fair, courteous, and has a good judicial temperament. In addition, a judge must be prepared and should know the law, but must also have an open mind and be willing to listen to arguments from both sides. I have all of these qualities. My education and experience have prepared me to take the next step and serve the public from the other side of the bench.

I am grateful to my adopted hometown of Kansas City for all of the opportunities that I have found here. However, I have become painfully aware that those opportunities are not equally available to everyone. Too many young people are being raised in broken homes with no father figure or role model of any kind. Many of them grow up in families plagued by poverty, drug and alcohol abuse, mental illness, and domestic violence. And many of them start to have families of their own, even before they have graduated from high school or ever held a job. Despite all of these barriers to success, many of these young people have great potential. That is why I took a lead role in developing and implementing New Start, an education-based diversion program for first-time felony offenders aged 17-23. The young men who were successful in this demanding program were not successful every day, and there were times that I was frustrated and so were they. But when they did complete the program, the new self-respect, confidence and sense of purpose that I saw in them was by far the most rewarding thing I have ever experienced in my career.

My experience with New Start has taught me that regardless of race, gender, age, disability, education, wealth, or status, every person who comes into the courtroom is equally important and deserves my full respect and attention. It also reminded me that I do not have all of the answers. The problems that we face as individuals and as a community are complex and some of the questions raised in our courtrooms are not easily resolved. I am well aware that as a judge, my decisions will have the potential to affect people's lives. That is a tremendous responsibility, and one I am prepared to accept. I have the deepest respect for our judicial system, but I understand that it is only as good and as honorable as the judges who serve it. If I am appointed, I will be committed to conducting myself in an ethical, professional, and fair manner so that I will bring honor to the 16th Judicial Circuit and to my profession.

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.

Dawn M. Parsons
Chief Trial Assistant/Chief Litigation Specialist
Jackson County Prosecutor's Office
415 E. 12th Street, Floor 7M
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 881-3858
dparsons@jacksongov.org

Matthew L. Dameron
Stueve Siegel Hanson
460 Nichols Road, Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64112
(816) 714-7197
Dameron@stuevesiegel.com

Carl W. Bussey
Law Offices of Carl W. Bussey & Associates
1301 Oak Street, Suite 300A
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 474-3440
carlwbussey@yahoo.com

Curt Winegarner
8030 N. Wayne Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64118
(816) 436-1354
Curtis.Winegarner@mspd.mo.gov

Eddie Tapper
President, Center City Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 7070
Kansas City, MO 64113
(816) 200-6557
etapper@kcdesignbuild.com

CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY AND AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

By my signature to this form, I certify that all statements made in my application for the office of Circuit Judge and attachments thereto are truthful and correct. I further certify that if I am nominated by the Sixteenth Circuit Judicial Commission and appointed to the office of Associate Circuit Judge, I will accept the appointment and perform the duties of that office as provided by law.

By my signature to this form, I authorize: (1) the Commission, through its Chairperson, to obtain relevant information, including but not limited to documents, records, and files, with respect to my medical, law enforcement, or disciplinary records; and (2) the Commission and its members to obtain additional relevant information regarding my qualifications, as well as the accuracy of my responses to the questions on this application. It is my understanding that the information obtained pursuant to this authorization shall be made available only to the members of the Sixteenth Circuit Judicial Commission and their staff as necessary to perform their duties.

Notwithstanding the above, in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 10.28 (e), if I am one of the three nominees listed on the certificate of nomination sent to the Governor, I authorize the Commission to send a complete copy of this application to the Governor and publicly release a copy of the application with personal and confidential information redacted as identified on the cover page of this application.

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

Signature of Applicant

3/10/2014
Date

Janette K. Rodecap
Printed Full Name of Applicant