

RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC  
IF THE APPLICANT IS SELECTED AS A NOMINEE



NAME: Michael L. Walton

1. State your present principal occupation: Family Court Commissioner
2. Answer the following:
  - (a) Are you at least 30 years of age? (Please answer if you are applying for a circuit judge vacancy.) Yes
  - (b) Are you at least 25 years of age? (Please answer if you are applying for an associate judge vacancy.) N/A
  - (c) Have you been a citizen of the United States for at least ten years? Yes
  - (d) Have you been a resident of St. Louis City for at least one year? Yes
  - (e) Have you been a qualified voter of Missouri for at least three years? Yes
3. For each jurisdiction in which you are or have been licensed to practice, state:
  - (a) The name of the jurisdiction; Missouri
  - (b) The date you were admitted to that bar and, if applicable, ceased to be a member of that bar; and  
April 1997
  - (c) Your bar number. 48428
4. State the name and address of each post-high school educational institutions you have attended, together with the dates and any degrees received:  
  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
Columbia, Missouri 65211  
B.A., December 1991

Saint Louis University School of Law  
100 N. Tucker  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63101  
J.D., May 1996

5.

List each position of employment you have held, beginning with your earliest, including non-legal employment, and for each state:

- (a) The name and address of the employer;
- (b) The position(s) you held;
- (c) The dates of employment;
- (d) Whether the employment was full, part-time, or seasonal; and
- (e) The reason(s) the employment ceased.

State Farm Insurance Companies  
4700 S. Providence Road  
Columbia, Missouri 65203  
Underwriter  
12/91-9/93  
(Began Law School)

SLU Law Admissions Department  
100 N. Tucker  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63101  
Assistant Director  
5/96-4/97  
(Began employment @Evans and Dixon)

Evans and Dixon, LLC  
One Metropolitan Square  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63102  
Associate  
4/97-4/2000  
(Opened private practice)

The Law Offices of Michael L. Walton  
34 N. Brentwood #212  
Clayton, Missouri 63105  
Sole Practitioner  
4/2000-2/2004  
(kept practice and started of counsel with Cochran)

Cochran, Cherry, Givens, Smith, Caldwell & Singleton, LLC  
1010 Market Street #1540

Saint Louis, Missouri 63101  
Of Counsel  
4/2004-4/2010  
(Firm dissolved)

The Law Offices of Michael L. Walton  
1520 Washington Avenue #212  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63103  
Sole Practitioner  
(Appointed as Family Court Commissioner

22nd Judicial Circuit-Family Court  
920 N. Vandeventer Avenue  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63108  
Family Court Commissioner  
4/2018-Present

6. If you have served as a judge or commissioner, identify up to five significant cases over which you presided to completion. Set forth the style, cause number, date and name and current address of the primary attorneys participating in each case, identifying the party each attorney represented. Indicate whether bench or jury tried and give a one to three sentence description of each case and its outcome.

In the following four cases, I served as Family Court Commissioner

In the Interest of: A.D., et al, 1822-JU00318-20 (Bench Trial)

06/05/2018

Donna Head, Attorney for Juvenile Officer (920 N. Vandeventer)

James Merlo, GAL (920 N. Vandeventer)

Deborah Bird, Attorney for Mother (920 N. Vandeventer)

Petition to Terminate Parental Rights. The child and siblings resided with maternal grandmother. Mother had a history of drug usage. The Court found by clear, cogent and convincing evidence grounds for TPR.

In the Interest of: Q.W, 1822-JU00516 Bench Trial

10/11/2018

Chris Brown, Attorney for the Juvenile Officer (920 N. Vandeventer)

Micah Hall, Attorney for Mother

Kelsey Vujnich, GAL for Mother (920 N. Vandeventer)

Mary Davidson, GAL for Child (920 N. Vandeventer)

Petition to Terminate Parental Rights. The child's mother had mental health issues, allegations of abandonment, no paternity established. The Court found by clear, cogent and convincing evidence grounds for TPR.

Bowers v. Bowers, 1022-FC01505 (Bench Trial)

04/26/2019

Larry Thomason, Attorney for Petitioner (6410 Morganford Road, 63116)

David Kreuter, Attorney for Respondent 12655 Olive #310, 63141)

Motion for Contempt. Alleged Respondent failed to abide by Divorce Decree by failing to pay portion of debt. Cause called, heard and taken under submission. Respondent found to be in contempt of court.

In the Interest of: X.D., 1822-JU00070 (Bench Trial)

12/11/2018

Jessica Boggs, Public Defender's Office (1114 Market Street, 63101)

Carolyn Whitehorn, Attorney for the Juvenile Officer (920 N. Vandeventer)

Motion to Modify alleging Juvenile committed several technical violations of court supervision and committed Tampering first. The Court found allegations true beyond a reasonable doubt and youth committed to DYS.

7. List up to ten cases which you have tried as either first or second chair. Set forth the style, cause number, date, court and judge, and identify who you represented, whether you were first or second chair, and the name and address of opposing counsel. Indicate whether each case was bench or jury tried and provide a one to

three sentence description of each case and its outcome.

In re: Q.L.

Cause Number: 1122-JU00219

10/14/2011

22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division

Commissioner Anne Marie-Clarke

Represented: Mother of the Juvenile

Opposing Counsel: Loretta Woodford, 920 N. Vandeventer

Bench Trial. Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Deputy Juvenile Officer proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

In re: Z.J.

Cause Number: 1122-JU00636

12/29/2011

22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division

Commissioner Anne-Marie Clarke

Represented: Mother of the Juvenile

Opposing Counsel: Loretta Woodford, 920 N. Vandeventer,

Bench Trial. Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Deputy Juvenile Officer proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

In re: D.B.

Cause Number: 1442-JU00450

05/18/2015

22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division

Commissioner Anne-Marie Clarke

Represented: Mother of the Juvenile

Opposing Counsel: Dawn Blunda, 111 N. 7th Street

Bench Trial.

Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Deputy Juvenile Officer proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

In re: B.H.

Cause Number: 1322-JU00109

04/26/2013

22nd Judicial Circuit- Juvenile Division

Commissioner Anne-Marie Clarke

Represented: Mother of the Juvenile

Opposing Counsel: Laura Harrold, 920 N. Vandeventer

Bench Trial. Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Deputy Juvenile Officer proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

In re: S.H.  
Cause Number: 1322-JU00324  
09/11/2015  
22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division  
Commissioner Anne-Marie Clarke  
Represented: Mother of the Juvenile  
Opposing Counsel: Dawn Blunda, 111 N. 7th Street  
Bench Trial. Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Children's Division proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

In re: I.P.  
Cause Number: 1622-JU00004  
04/14/2016  
22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division  
Commissioner Anne-Marie Clarke  
Represented: Mother of the Juvenile  
Opposing Counsel: Dawn Blunda, 111 N. 7th Street  
Bench Trial. Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Children's Division proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

In re: J.T.  
Cause Number 1622-JU00453  
12/29/2016  
22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division  
Commissioner Anne-Marie Clarke  
Represented: Mother of the Juvenile  
Opposing Counsel: Dawn Blunda, 111 N. 7th Street  
Bench Trial. Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Children's Division proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

In re: C.V.  
Cause Number: 1722-JU00273  
09/12/2017  
22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division  
Commissioner Anne-Marie Clarke  
Represented: Mother of the Juvenile  
Opposing Counsel: Richard Childress, 111 N. 7th Street  
Bench Trial. Termination of Parental Rights Trial. Court to determine whether the Children's Division proved by clear, cogent and convincing evidence the statutory factors needed to terminate the parental rights of Mother. TPR granted.

8. List up to ten appeals or writs before appellate courts which you have briefed or argued. Set forth the style, cause number, date, and court, and identify who you

represented, whether you briefed, argued or both, and the name and address of opposing counsel. Provide a one to three sentence description of each case and its outcome.

In the Interest of J.MB. and B.A.B

Cause Number ED96959

10/20/2011

Missouri Court of Appeals-Eastern District

Represented Appellant, Mother

Submitted on Briefs

Mother was diagnosed with low I.Q., considered as factor in her ability to parent. Her parental rights were terminated by the trial court. Trial court decision upheld by Court of Appeals.

9. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony?  
If yes, provide details, including the style of the case, cause number, name of the jurisdiction, and date of conviction. None
10. Have you ever been a party to any litigation, other than as guardian ad litem, plaintiff ad litem or defendant ad litem?  
If yes, identify the style of the case, cause number, name of the jurisdiction and the approximate year in which such litigation was commenced and in which it was terminated, and provide a one to three sentence description of the case and its outcome.  
  
Anissa Collins-Walton (Petitioner) and Michael L. Walton (Respondent)  
2196FC-01045  
21st Circuit-St. Louis County Family Court  
4/1997  
Dissolution of Marriage with one child. Joint Physical and Legal Custody granted without trial.  
  
Kimberly Brown (Petitioner) and Michael L. Walton (Respondent)  
13SL-DR02379  
22nd Circuit-St. Louis City Family Court  
9/2014  
Separation Agreement entered and converted to a Dissolution of Marriage with no children.
11. Have you ever been investigated, disciplined or cited for breach of ethics or professional conduct by a court, bar association, or any office or committee thereof?  
If yes, provide details. OCDC Overdraft Complaint, Admonition, 3/18/2011. Closed on 4/3/2011
12. Have you ever been held in contempt of court?  
If yes, provide details. No.

13. 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? No  
If yes, state the nature of such breach, the date discipline was imposed and the exact 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? No
- If yes, provide details including date the order was entered, the date of your consent, and a description of the conduct you were ordered to cease and desist.
- (c) Whether, to your knowledge, you have been a subject of a complaint and investigation by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline, which did not result in any action by the Commission? If yes, provide details. No.
14. List all bar associations and other professional societies, of which you are a member, with any offices held and dates.
- Mound City Bar Association, Current Member and Past-President 2012-2013  
National Bar Association, 2011-Present  
BAMSL, 11/15-Present
15. Describe your community activities, including any organizations, not listed above, with which you are affiliated.
- Royal Vagabonds Foundation, Inc. 4315 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo 63108, Current Board Member, 2023-Present  
Urban Golf of Greater St. Louis, 3216 Locust Street, St. Louis, Mo 63103, Volunteer, 2010-Present
16. Do you now hold or have you ever held any elective or appointive public office or position?  
If yes, provide details.
- While not publicly elected or appointed by the public at large, I was appointed by judges of the 22nd Judicial Circuit in April of 2018 to serve in my current role as Family Court Commissioner. I was retained in April of 2022.



17. Provide the branches and dates of (a) military service, or (b) other public service, not otherwise covered in this application. If discharged from the military, was the discharge other than honorable? None
18. List any professional articles or books which have been published or any special recognition or award of a professional nature which you have received. None
19. Furnish the name, address, telephone number, and email address of up to five individuals, *who are not judges*, as references with respect to your judicial qualifications.

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Dr. Sean Goliday  
US Commission on Civil Rights  
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. #1150  
Washington, D.C. 20425  
202-422-1786

sgoliday@yahoo.com

Kristen J. Conwell, Chapter 7 Trustee  
520 N. Skinker Blvd  
Saint Louis, Missouri  
63130  
314-652-1120

20. Set forth any additional information that demonstrates the quality of your legal work or which you believe to be relevant.

Prior to being appointed as Family Court Commissioner, I worked predominantly in private practice, involved in criminal defense and personal injury litigation. I was also granted a contract in 2000 with the 22nd Judicial Circuit-Juvenile Division to represent parents facing abuse and neglect allegations in family court. I held that position until I was appointed Family Court Commissioner in 2018.

I have been a Family Court Commissioner for five years, presiding over sensitive cases involving care and protection, juvenile delinquency, child support and custody matters. abuse and neglect cases, juvenile delinquency matters and child support and custody matters. I have experience in analyzing arguments from attorneys representing parents, the Deputy Juvenile Office, Children's Division as well as the guardian ad litem, CASA representatives and foster parents to determine what is in the best interest of the juveniles involved. Additionally, I served in the Order of Protection docket from 2018-2020. In that role, I reviewed the applications for orders of protection as well as presided over bench trials for individuals seeking full orders of protection

During my years in private practice and my tenure as a Family Court Commissioner, I have attained a breadth of experience and legal acumen over a variety of areas which is necessary as a Circuit Court Judge. I have demonstrated, by my interactions with litigants, my working relationship with court employees, my camaraderie and collegiality with other judicial officers in the circuit and demonstrated that I have the judicial temperament necessary to be a Circuit Judge. In the Juvenile Court oftentimes you see individuals at their worst and lowest points in life due to the emotions involved in these cases. I have become adept at managing the emotions of litigants and attorneys, while also managing an efficient flow of the docket. As a member of the judiciary, I have been able to hone the skills necessary to preside over any case assigned to me in the most professional and efficient manner. These skills have been developed and fine tuned during my time as Family Court Commissioner and will serve me well in the role of Circuit Judge for the 22nd Judicial Circuit.