

UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name:** State full name (include any former names used).

Susan Courtwright Rodriguez
Susan Mauritia Courtwright (maiden name)

2. **Position:** State the position for which you have been nominated.

U.S. District Court Judge for the Western District of North Carolina

3. **Address:** List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina
401 West Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

4. **Birthplace:** State year and place of birth.

1981; Lebanon, Kentucky

5. **Education:** List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

2005 – 2009, Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University; J.D., 2009

1999 – 2003, Centre College; B.A. (*magna cum laude*), 2003

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

April 2023 – Present
U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina
401 West Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

U.S. Magistrate Judge

November 2011 – March 2023

McGuireWoods

201 North Tryon Street

Suite 3000

Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Partner (2017 – 2023)

Co-Leader, Financial Institutions Industry Team (2017 – 2023)

Associate (2011 – 2017)

October 2006 – November 2011 (Leave of Absence August 2009 – January 2011 to complete judicial clerkship)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

245 Murray Lane Building 410

Washington, District of Columbia 20528

Policy Advisor

2010

Charlotte School of Law

201 South College Street

Suite 400

Charlotte, North Carolina 28244

Adjunct Professor for Legal Writing (Fall and Spring 2010)

August 2009 – January 2011

U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina

401 West Trade Street

Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Law Clerk to the Honorable Frank D. Whitney

June 2005 – September 2006

The White House, Office of Counsel to the President

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue

Washington, District of Columbia 20500

Paralegal/Staffer

2006 – 2009

Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University

3301 Fairfax Drive

Arlington, Virginia 22201

Research Assistant to Professor Ilya Somin

October 2003 – May 2005

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

245 Murray Lane Building 410

Washington, District of Columbia 20528
Schedule C Presidential Appointee

2001 – 2002
Northern Virginia Technology Council
1069 West Broad Street
Suite 743
Falls Church, Virginia 22046
Paid internship (Summer 2001 and Summer 2002)

2001
United States Senate
Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies
399 Russell Senate Office
Washington, D.C. 20510
Unpaid internship (January 2001)

2000
United States Senate
Rules and Administration Committee
399 Russell Senate Office
Washington, D.C. 20510
Unpaid internship (Summer 2000)

1999 – 2003
Centre College
Norton Center for the Arts
600 W Walnut Street
Danville, KY 40422
Paid Usher

~2001 – 2003
Helton Law Office
432 West Main Street
Danville, KY 40422
Paid Clerk

~1998 – 1999
Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation
100.9 FM and 102.7 FM
100 East Main Street
Lebanon, Kentucky 40033
Paid weekend radio board operator and announcer

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security

number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I did not serve in the United States military. I was not required to register for selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Chambers USA ranking for Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations in North Carolina (2022 and 2023)

Chambers USA ranking for Fintech Legal: Corporate, Securities & Financing (National) (2022 and 2023)

Legal 500 United States, Fintech (2019, 2020, and 2022)

Co-Leader of the McGuireWoods Financial Institutions Industry Team when selected as Law360's "Banking Practice Group of the Year" (2018 and 2020)

North Carolina Rising Stars, Government Relations, Super Lawyers (2017 – 2019)

Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, Writing Fellow, Moot Court Board, Petitioner's Best Brief Award, Best Oral Argument Award (School Moot Court Competition) (2006 – 2009)

Centre College, *magna cum laude*, John C. Young Scholar, Brown Scholar, and Phi Beta Kappa (1999 – 2003)

National Honors Society (~1998)

Kentucky Governor's Scholar (1998)

Kentucky Colonel (June 2003)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

American Bar Association, Member (~2013 – 2023)

American Immigration Lawyers Association (~2019 – 2023)

Federal Bar Association, Member (2023 – present)

Federalist Society (2006 – 2023)

Steering Committee Member, Charlotte Chapter (~2012 – 2023)

Member, Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University (~2006 – 2009)

Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference (2023 – present)

Mecklenburg County Bar Association / 26th Judicial District Bar Membership (2009 – present)

Republican National Lawyers Association (~2015 – 2020)

U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina

Appointed Chair, Merit Selection Panel for Reappointment of Local Magistrate Judge (2019)

Appointed Member, Merit Selection Panel for Appointment of Local Magistrate Judge (2018)

Appointed Member, Local Rules Committee (2017 – 2018)

Staff Member, Local Patent Rules Committee (2010)

Women's White Collar Defense Association,

Member, Charlotte Chapter (~2013 – 2023)

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

North Carolina Bar, 2009. There have been no lapses in membership.

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Court Admission, 2019

U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, Court Admission, 2009

There have been no lapses in membership.

11. **Memberships:**

a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

MiraVia (formerly Room at the Inn), Non-profit Board of Directors (~2013 – 2021)

Member (~2013 – 2018)

Vice President (~2018)
President (~2019 – 2021)

St. Ann Catholic Church (2011 – present)

b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To the best of my knowledge, none of the organizations listed above currently discriminates or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin, either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

12. **Published Writings and Public Statements:**

a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply copies of all published material to the Committee.

Note: I co-authored many of the below publications for my prior firm's blogs. In some instances, my name has been removed. Once I left the firm in 2023 to take my position as U.S. Magistrate Judge, my name was removed as a co-author based on my prior firm's policy.

With others, *Proposed Federal Rule Signals Remote Form I-9 Inspection of Employee Documents Will Likely Become Permanent Option*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, August 25, 2022. Copy supplied.

With others, *SEC Signals Enhanced Focus on Crypto Assets by Expanding the Enforcement Unit Tasked With Protecting Crypto Markets*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, May 3, 2022. Copy supplied.

With others, *CFPB's New Interest in Examining Fintechs is Likely to Mean More Naming and Shaming by the Agency*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, April 28, 2022. Copy supplied.

With others, *Q1 2022 Update on LIBOR Transition Developments*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, March 31, 2022. Copy supplied.

With others, *Federal Framework for Digital Asset Regulation Comes into Focus*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, March 15, 2022. Copy supplied.

With others, *Headlines for Alternative Lenders on LIBOR Replacement*, McGuireWoods Legal Insights, March 4, 2022. Copy supplied.

With others, *2021 Brought SEC Focus on Crypto Exchanges and Lending Platforms*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, January 10, 2022. Copy supplied.

With others, *Biden Administration to Focus on Cryptocurrency as Working Group Issues Report on Stablecoins*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, December 7, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *Department of Justice Announces National Cryptocurrency Enforcement Team*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, October 15, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *Banks Press Ahead with Term SOFR Preparation; Credit Sensitive Rates Under Scrutiny*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, October 12, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *New Nevada Law Protects Limited-English Proficiency Consumers by Requiring Translation of Certain Financial Legal Documents*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, October 7, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *Income Share Agreements – Risks, Rewards, and Regulators*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, September 13, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *Federal LIBOR "Tough Legacy" Fix Gains Traction*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, August 11, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *Mid-Year Check In on LIBOR Transition Developments*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, June 28, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *LSTA RFR Credit Agreements Are Here: LSTA Publishes Daily SOFR (and Daily RFR) Concept Credit Agreements*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, May 17, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *ARRC Releases Supplemental Versions of its Recommended Hardwired Fallback Language*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, March 29, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *Are You Ready for the End of LIBOR? Federal Reserve Issues Guidance*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, March 17, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *CFPB's "Change of Direction" After One Month: New Goals, More Attorneys*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, February 26, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *OCC Publishes LIBOR-Transition Self-Assessment Tool*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, February 16, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *States Sue to Set Aside OCC's True Lender Rule*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, January 7, 2021. Copy supplied.

With others, *ICE Benchmark Administration Proposes Extending U.S. Dollar LIBOR Tenors Through June 2023*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, December 1, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Signals or Noise in November for LIBOR Transition?*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, November 25, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Regulator Joint Statement Highlights Need to Move on From LIBOR (But For Some, Not Necessarily to SOFR)*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, November 18, 2020. Copy supplied.

Author, *CFPB Rescinds RESPA Bulletin on Marketing and Services Agreements, Issues Important FAQs*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, October 16, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *ARRC Hardwired Fallback Language's First Adopt in a Syndicated Institutional Loan*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, September 28, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *FinCEN Rule Ends AML Program Exemption for Banks that Lack a Federal Regulator*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, September 15, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *ARRC Updates Recommended Best Practices in Anticipation of ISDA's IBOR Fallback Protocol*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, August 24, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *LIBOR Transition: Business Loans SOFR Summer Wrap Up*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, August 21, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Online-Only International Students May Lose U.S. Visa Status — Analysis and Impact*, McGuireWoods Update, July 9, 2020.

With others, *ARRC Publishes Updated Recommended Fallback Language for New USD LIBOR-Linked Syndicated Loans*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, July 9, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *U.S. Supreme Court Determines Action to Rescind DACA was Arbitrary and Capricious*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, June 19, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *CFPB Issues Proposals and Updated Guidance Ahead of LIBOR Discontinuation*, McGuireWoods' LIBOR Transition Blog, June 8, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *OCC Clarifies the "Valid When Made" Principle*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, June 5, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Congressional Investigations: A Month In, Congress Signals Close Scrutiny of CARES Act and Paycheck Protection Program*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, May 1, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *UK's Regulator of Banks and Financial Services Releases Its Business Plan for 2020/2021*, McGuireWoods Legal Insights, April 30, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Proving a Real Signature in a Surreal World: Notarization Concerns in a Pandemic (Part 2)*, McGuireWoods Legal Insights, April 15, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Proving a Real Signature in a Surreal World: Notarization Concerns in a Pandemic*, McGuireWoods Legal Insights, April 6, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Issues Initial Guidance on Essential Workers, Sectors*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, March 23, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *DHS Announces Flexibility in Form I-9 "Physical Presence" Requirement During COVID-19*, McGuireWoods Legal Insights, March 20, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Fintech Company Avoids Murky Regulatory Landscape by being the First U.S. Fintech Company to Acquire a Regulated Bank*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, February 24, 2020. Copy supplied.

With others, *Court Refuses to Dismiss Claim Based on Allegations that a Real Estate Marketing Company's Co-Marketing Program Violated RESPA's Anti-Kickback Provision*, McGuireWoods' Consumer FinSights Blog, May 13, 2019. Copy supplied.

With others, *Employer Update: DHS Extends Temporary Protected Status and Work Authorization for El Salvador, Haiti, Sudan, and Nicaragua*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, March 12, 2019. Copy supplied.

With others, *Congressional Investigations: Beyond Sensational Headlines — Incoming House Leaders Announce Broad Investigative Priorities Targeting Business Community*, McGuireWoods Update, December 18, 2018. Copy supplied.

With others, *Food and Beverage Industry Focus: DOJ Targets Immigration-Related Discrimination*, McGuireWoods Update, November 13, 2018. Copy supplied.

With others, *Time For Regulators To Embrace Earned Wage Access*, Law 360, October

24, 2018. Copy supplied.

With others, *Increased Immigration Worksite Enforcement Looming in 2018*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, October 30, 2017. Copy supplied.

With others, *CFPB Issues Game-Changing Rule On Arbitration Clauses*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, July 11, 2017. Copy supplied.

With others, *H-1B Employers Face Increased Site Visits*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, April 18, 2017. Copy supplied.

With others, *Big Changes Come With The New Form I-9 Published by USCIS*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, November 14, 2016. Copy supplied.

With others, *Increased Fines on the Horizon for Immigration Law Violations*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, July 7, 2016. Copy supplied.

With others, *The Export/Immigration Dilemma: Don't Let OSC Catch Your HR Department Unaware*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, May 5, 2016. Copy supplied.

With others, *Buyer Beware: Noncompliant Electronic I-9 Software Risks Customer Company Fines*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, April 27, 2016. Copy supplied.

With others, *Oral Arguments in PHH Case Signal Trouble for CFPB*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, April 14, 2016. Copy supplied.

With others, *Conducting Internal I-9 Audits - ICE and DOJ-OSC Provide Joint Guidance*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, December 16, 2015. Copy supplied.

With others, *Proposed Changes to Form I-9 Create New Compliance Questions*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, November 30, 2015. Copy supplied.

With others, *CFPB's Position on Confidential Supervisory Information*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, February 6, 2015. Copy supplied.

With others, *Higher Education Facing Scrutiny from CFPB*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, October 10, 2014. Copy supplied.

With others, *The Importance of Getting It Right: Employment Eligibility Verification*, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, May 7, 2014. Copy supplied.

Protected? Privileged Materials and the CFPB, McGuireWoods' Subject to Inquiry Blog, November 25, 2013. Copy supplied.

More on Snowden: Traitor or Hero?, Catholic News Herald, August 16, 2013. Copy supplied.

Written in Stone? The Impact of Sharia Law on the Rights of Women in Nigeria, Research paper as part of John C. Young Scholar program at Centre College on the impact of Sharia Law on women's rights in Nigeria, 2003. I no longer possess a copy of the paper due to the age, but an article that references it is supplied.

b. Supply copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

None.

c. Supply copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

None.

d. Supply copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

July 22, 2025: Panelist, "Department of Justice, Views from the Bench, Basic Civil Trial Advocacy Seminar," National Advocacy Center, Columbia, SC. This was an informal discussion during a training for new Assistant U.S. Attorneys. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the National Advocacy Center is 1620 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

May 20, 2025: Panelist, "Department of Justice, Views from the Bench, Basic Criminal Trial Advocacy Seminar," National Advocacy Center, Columbia, SC. This was an informal discussion during a training for new Assistant U.S. Attorneys. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the National Advocacy Center is 1620 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

May 16, 2025: Speaker, "Introduction of the Honorable Frank D. Whitney," Mecklenburg Bar Association's Annual Law & Society Gala, Charlotte, NC. Copy

supplied.

May 9, 2025: Presiding Judge and Speaker, "Naturalization Ceremony," U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC. Copy supplied.

May 8, 2025: Presiding Federal Judge, "Mecklenburg Bar Association, 26th Judicial District Bar, State and Federal Court Swearing-In Ceremony," Mecklenburg Bar Association, Charlotte, NC. Script of event supplied.

May 14, 2024: Panelist, "Department of Justice, Views from the Bench, Basic Criminal Trial Advocacy Seminar," National Advocacy Center, Columbia, SC. This was an informal discussion during a training for new Assistant U.S. Attorneys. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the National Advocacy Center is 1620 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

May 13, 2024: Panelist, Mecklenburg County Bar's Criminal Justice Section, "CLE: Views From the Bench with Magistrate Judges Rodriguez and Keesler," Mecklenburg County Bar, Charlotte, NC. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The event took place at 227 West Trade Street Suite 950, Charlotte, NC, 28202.

May 8, 2024: Presiding Federal Judge, "Mecklenburg Bar Association, 26th Judicial District Bar, State and Federal Court Swearing-In Ceremony," Mecklenburg County Bar, Charlotte, NC. Script of event supplied.

January 24, 2024: Speaker, "Women's White Collar Defense Association, Charlotte Chapter, Q&A Lunch," Women's White Collar Defense Association, Charlotte, NC. This was an informal Q&A discussion with the attendees. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The event took place at 301 S College St # 3500, Charlotte, NC 28202.

December 7, 2023: Speaker, "Fall White Collar Crime Social," hosted by local white collar bar, an informal association of several local attorneys, Charlotte, NC. Copy supplied.

October 19, 2023: Presiding Federal Judge, "26th Judicial District Bar, State and Federal Court Swearing-In Ceremony," Mecklenburg Bar Association, Charlotte, NC. Script of event supplied.

October 6, 2023: Co-Moderator, "Interview with Honorable Amul R. Thapar, Judge, United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit," 2023 North Carolina Chapter Conference, The Federalist Society, Raleigh NC. Recording available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8L3Jio2ucbk>.

September 29, 2023: Speaker, "Swearing-In Speech as United States Magistrate Judge," U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC. Transcript supplied.

August 25, 2023: Presiding Judge and Speaker, "Naturalization Ceremony," U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC. Copy supplied.

May 16, 2023: Panelist, "Department of Justice, Views from the Bench, Basic Criminal Trial Advocacy Seminar," National Advocacy Center, Columbia, SC. This was an informal discussion during a training for new Assistant U.S. Attorneys. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the National Advocacy Center is 1620 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

January 31, 2023: Speaker, "Deal Resolutions for the New Year," McGuireWoods, Charlotte, NC, Deal Us In Podcast Series, recording available at: <https://youtu.be/48yU61x6PJA>.

May 31, 2022: Speaker, "Cryptocurrency Bootcamp for Lawyers," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

December 16, 2021: Speaker, "Cryptocurrency 101 – What You Need to Know," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

November 11, 2021: Speaker, "Administrative Inquisitions? How Agencies Initiate, Conduct, and Conclude Investigations," 2021 National Lawyers Convention, The Federalist Society, Washington, D.C. Recording available at: <https://youtu.be/ynj5Dvx1rSI>.

November 4, 2021: Moderator, "Investigations and Crisis Management for Educational Institutions," Webinar CLE McGuireWoods & KMPG, Charlotte, N.C. Information about the event supplied.

October 27, 2021: Speaker, "Skeletons in the Closet: Arbitration and Conflict Dispute, Deal Us In Podcast Series," McGuireWoods, Charlotte, NC, Recording available at: <https://youtu.be/oPLkFQEQGpl>.

October 29, 2020: Speaker, "Horror Stories - Keeping the Monsters Out of Your Deal," Deal Us In Podcast Series, McGuireWoods, Charlotte, NC, recording available at: <https://youtu.be/qEzrNajhuBo>.

October 29, 2020: Speaker, "Remarks," MiraVia virtual annual banquet, Charlotte, NC. I made brief remarks on how MiraVia adapted to pandemic guidelines to serve those who come for assistance. Remarks available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzSphC9J6Os> (remarks at 20:33).

May 19, 2020: Speaker, "Paycheck Protection Program – Legal and Compliance Issues Now and Later," Webinar CLE McGuireWoods & KMPG, Charlotte, NC. Materials and recording available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZmYZ1SoHmI>.

May 14, 2020: Speaker, "When the Plates Stop Spinning: How Financial Institutions Can Prepare for Ponzi Scheme Investigations and Litigation," McGuireWoods CLE Webinar, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

April 14, 2020: Speaker, "Best Practices for Internal Investigations," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

November 5, 2019: Presenter, "Fintech Update: Legal Regulation and Innovation Trends," McGuireWoods CLE, San Francisco, CA. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The event took place in San Francisco, California.

October 24, 2019: Speaker, "Welcome and Thank you Remarks," MiraVia annual banquet, Charlotte, NC. Notes of speech supplied.

October 9, 2019: Presenter, "Protecting Confidential Supervisory Information [CSI] and Other Information," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

February 13, 2019: Presenter, "Watch Out! Pitfalls in Producing Information in Litigation," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

December 3, 2018: Presenter, "Watch Out! Pitfalls in Producing Information," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

October 24, 2018: Speaker, "Welcome and Thank you Remarks," MiraVia annual banquet, Charlotte, NC. Copy of article supplied.

April 25, 2018: Presenter, "Ponzi Scheme Litigation," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

November 2 and 7, 2017: Speaker, "Hot Topics for Nonprofits," 15th Annual Nonprofit Seminar, McGuireWoods, Charlotte and Raleigh, NC. Agenda supplied.

December 1, 2016: Presenter, "The New Frontier of the Form I-9 and E-Verify Compliance," McGuireWoods CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address of McGuireWoods is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

April 1, 2016: Presenter, "Mechanics of an Effective Investigation," McGuireWoods CLE Seminar, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

October 22, 2015: Speaker, "Mechanics of an Effective Internal Investigation," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

October 22, 2014: Speaker, "Form I-9 Compliance," McGuireWoods Virtual CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

October 15, 2013: Presenter, "National Security & Government Surveillance Law," Mecklenburg County Bar Association, CLE Seminar, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The event took place at the U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, 401 West Trade Street, Charlotte, NC 28203.

September 15, 2012: Presenter, "Getting to Know the CFPB," McGuireWoods CLE, Charlotte, NC. I no longer have any notes, transcripts, or recordings. The McGuireWoods address is 201 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

Press Release, *McGuireWoods Partner Susan Rodriguez to Become U.S. Magistrate Judge*, McGuireWoods, March 14, 2023. Copy supplied.

Press Release, *McGuireWoods Earns 23 Top-Tier National Rankings in U.S. News-Best Lawyers' 'Best Law Firms'; Named Law Firm of the Year for Banking & Finance Law*, McGuireWoods, November 4, 2021. Copy supplied.

Press Release, *McGuireWoods Team Assesses LIBOR Transition Progress in CCBJ*, McGuireWoods, September 16, 2021. Copy supplied.

All Aboard? The LIBOR Train Is Leaving The Station, Corporate Counsel Business Journal, July – August 2021 issue. Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Law360 Profiles McGuireWoods and Banking Practice Group of the Year*, McGuireWoods, December 16, 2020. Copy supplied.

Banking Group Of The Year: McGuireWoods, Law 360, December 10, 2020. Copy supplied.

10th Edition of Best Law Firms, Best Lawyers, January 22, 2020. Copy supplied.

Press Release, *McGuireWoods Again Recognized as Law Firm of the Year for Banking & Finance Law*, McGuireWoods, November 1, 2019. Copy supplied.

Law360 Profiles McGuireWoods as a Banking Practice Group of the Year, McGuireWoods, January 29, 2019. Copy supplied.

Banking Group Of The Year: McGuireWoods, Law 360, January 24, 2019. Copy supplied.

Press Release, *U.S. News-Best Lawyers Names McGuireWoods 'Law Firm of the Year' for Banking & Finance Law*, McGuireWoods, November 2, 2018. Copy supplied.

Press Release, *A look at one of Centre's outstanding seniors*, Centre College, September 12, 2002. Copy supplied.

Centre Debate, Three Others Agreed to Bush, Gore Accept Sites Panel Had Picked, Lexington Herald Leader, September 15, 2000. Copy supplied.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, April 2023 to present, selected by Merit Selection Panel and appointed to the position.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment?

I have presided over two trials since taking the bench in 2023, including one civil bench trial and one criminal trial for a Class A misdemeanor (no jury).

- i. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

jury trials:	0%
bench trials:	100%

- ii. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

civil proceedings:	50%
criminal proceedings:	50%

- b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

As a United States Magistrate Judge, many of my opinions are not selected for publication in reporters. I estimate that in my two and a half years as a Magistrate Judge, I issued

approximately 2,913 orders in 2024 in both criminal and civil matters. In 2023, I issued approximately 2,384 orders. All reported and unreported opinions I have issued are filed and stored on CM/ECF, the federal court Case Management/Electronic Case Files system. I have provided citations to Westlaw or Lexis where available.

See attached list of opinions.

c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature of the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (4) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

1. *Front Row Motorsports, Inc. v. DiSeveria et. al.*, No. 3:22-cv-00138, (W.D.N.C.), 2023-2025, *aff'd*, *Front Row Motorsports, Inc. v. Diseveria*, 2025 U.S. App. LEXIS 10143 (4th Cir. Apr. 28, 2025).

I presided over this case in its entirety, including a civil bench trial, with the parties' consent under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). The case involved the purchase of a NASCAR racing charter by Front Row from BK Racing. During the sale, BK Racing did not disclose that it had borrowed money from a bank and had used the racing charter as collateral. The bank sued purchaser Front Row and BK Racing following a default on the loan. Front Row settled the case with the bank and sought indemnification from the officers/owners of BK Racing. I issued a summary judgment opinion finding the indemnification provision was valid and enforceable under North Carolina law, but denied summary judgment on the issue of whether the settlement paid by Front Row to the bank was reasonable, finding that was a factual issue. Later, I held a bench trial and then issued my findings of fact and conclusions of law in a lengthy opinion. I also awarded certain attorney's fees.

The Fourth Circuit affirmed my decision finding no reversible error in an unpublished opinion, which referenced Talladega Nights: the Ballad of Ricky Bobby. Judge Quattlebaum wrote the opinion, in which Judge Wilkinson and Judge Gregory joined.

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2. *United States v. Carter*, 3:21-mj-00073, (W.D.N.C.). Copy of Judgment supplied.

I presided over this criminal bench trial in which Defendant Carter was charged with a Class A misdemeanor for violation of 49 U.S.C. § 46506(2) "Application of Certain Criminal Law to Acts on Aircraft" following an indecent exposure on an aircraft that landed in Charlotte, North Carolina. After hearing the evidence presented at trial, I found the Defendant guilty of the offense and sentenced him that same day. No appeal was filed.

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3. *Rodriguez v. Wipro Ltd.*, No. 3:23-CV-00354-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 177800 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 30, 2024), *aff'd*, 2025 U.S. App. LEXIS 5918 (4th Cir. Mar. 13, 2025).

I presided over this case in its entirety with the parties' consent under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). Plaintiff brought the lawsuit under federal law alleging violations of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (SOX) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Plaintiff also attempted to bring a claim under 18 U.S.C. § 1348, but I determined there was no private right of action. The Fourth Circuit affirmed my decision finding no reversible error in an unpublished per curiam decision with Judges Niemeyer, Richardson, and Benjamin on the panel.

Pro Se Plaintiff.

Counsel for Defendant Wipro Limited:

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4. *Freudenberg v. Servcon, LLC*, No. 3:23-CV-00068-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 176198 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 27, 2024).

I presided over this case in its entirety with the parties' consent under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), including issuing an order on the parties cross-motions for summary judgment. Plaintiff brought an action against her former employer alleging: (1) Failure to Provide a Reasonable Accommodation in Violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); (2) Retaliation in Violation of the ADA; (3) Unlawful Discrimination in Violation of Pregnancy Discrimination Act (PDA); (4) Unlawful Retaliation in Violation of the PDA; and (5) Failure to Pay Overtime Wages in Violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). I denied both Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment and Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment. I ordered the parties to meet and confer on settlement following denial of summary judgment and set the matter for trial. Two weeks before the

scheduled Pretrial Conference, the parties agreed to dismiss the action.

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5. *Keffer v. Comm'r of Soc. Sec.*, No. 5:23-CV-00042-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 135740 (W.D.N.C. July 31, 2024).

I presided over this case in its entirety with the parties' consent under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). Plaintiff filed an action assigning error to the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) formulation of her Residual Functional Capacity (RFC). Plaintiff argued that the ALJ erred by finding at the RFC stage that Plaintiff could perform work with "simple routine repetitive tasks, with at least one-to-two step instructions." Plaintiff argued this was inconsistent with the ALJ's later finding that she was not disabled because she had the ability to perform jobs with Reasoning Level 2, which requires the ability to "carry out detailed instructions." I issued an order finding that Defendant's decision to deny Plaintiff Social Security benefits was not supported by substantial evidence and reversed the Commissioner's decision and remanded the matter for a new hearing.

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6. *United States v. Gill*, No. 3:22-CR-00210-FDW-SCR, 2023 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 189010 (W.D.N.C. July 20, 2023), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, *United States v. Gill*, 2023 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 188376 (W.D.N.C. Oct. 18, 2023).

Defendant Gill was charged in a Bill of Indictment for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Defendant sought a *Franks* hearing to challenge the affidavit in support of a search warrant of a cell phone seized from Defendant when he was arrested and to suppress evidence found therein. I heard argument and then authored a Memorandum and Recommendation for the District Court Judge. I concluded that Defendant failed to make a substantial preliminary showing to meet the intentionality or materiality requirements for a *Franks* hearing and recommended that Defendant's Motion be denied. The Memorandum and Recommendation was affirmed and adopted by the District Court Judge.

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7. *United States v. Orr*, No. 3:23-CR-00208-FDW-SCR, (W.D.N.C.) (Sept. 30, 2024) (copy supplied), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2025 WL 572887 (W.D.N.C. Feb. 21, 2025).

Defendant Orr was charged in a Bill of Indictment for possession of a firearm by a prohibited person in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Defendant moved to suppress property seized from a law enforcement search of Defendant's vehicle. I held an evidentiary hearing and then authored a Memorandum and Recommendation for the District Court Judge. I recommended denying Defendant's Motion to Suppress concluding that the traffic stop at issue was not unreasonably delayed and the search of the vehicle did not violate the Fourth Amendment. The Memorandum and Recommendation was affirmed and adopted by the District Court Judge.

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8. *Berglin v. Comm'r of Soc. Sec.*, No. 1:23-CV-00333-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 200249 (W.D.N.C. Nov. 4, 2024).

The parties consented to magistrate judge jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). Plaintiff filed an action assigning error to the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) formulation of her Residual Functional Capacity (RFC). Plaintiff argued that the ALJ erred by finding she suffered moderate impairments both in maintaining concentration, persistence and pace (CPP), but failed to fully account for those limitations in the RFC. I issued an order finding that Defendant's decision to deny Plaintiff Social Security benefits was not supported by substantial evidence and reversed the Commissioner's decision and remanded the matter for a new hearing.

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9. *Lamie v. LendingTree, LLC*, No. 3:22-cv-00307-FDW-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 34528 (W.D.N.C. Jan. 30, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33632, 2024 WL 811519 (W.D.N.C. Feb. 27, 2024).

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and Local Civil Rule 72.1(a)(3), and with the electronic consent provided by all represented parties, the District Court Judge designated me to conduct the Final Approval Hearing for Class Action Settlement. I held the hearing and submitted proposed findings of fact and recommendations, which were adopted by the District Court Judge.

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10. *Pereira v. Nucor Corp.*, No. 3:23-MC-00024-FDW-SCR, 2023 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 108237 (W.D.N.C. June 22, 2023), *appeal dismissed*, No. 23-1775, 2024 U.S. App. LEXIS 18712 (4th Cir. June 24, 2024).

Petitioner sought an order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1782 to conduct discovery for use in a contemplated foreign proceeding. I found that the Petitioner failed to satisfy the Section 1782(a) statutory factors, and the discretionary factors set forth by the Supreme Court in *Intel Corp. v. Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*, 542 U.S. 241 (2004). Accordingly, I denied the request. The appeal was later dismissed by the Fourth Circuit for lack of prosecution.

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d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

1. *Corvian Cmty. Sch., Inc. v. C.A.*, No. 3:22-CV-00638-RJC-SCR, 2023 WL 5337830 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 18, 2023), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2023 WL 6001288 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 15, 2023), *aff'd*, No. 23-2086, 2024 WL 3439419 (4th Cir. July 16, 2024).

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2. *Mitchell v. City of Charlotte*, No. 3:23-cv-00006-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59629 (W.D.N.C. Mar. 1, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 58696 (W.D.N.C. Mar. 29, 2024).

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3. *Reid v. Town of Dallas*, No. 3:23-cv-00146-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 173818 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 12, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted sub nom.*, *Reid v. Scarborough*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172735 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 24, 2024).

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4. *Sherrill v. Aziyo Biologics, Inc.*, No. 5:21-CV-00172-KDB-SCR, 2024 WL 1985835 (W.D.N.C. Mar. 29, 2024), *report and recommendation adopted sub nom.* *Sherrill v. SpinalGraft Techs., LLC*, No. 521CV00172KDBSCR, 2024 WL 1979452 (W.D.N.C. May 3, 2024).

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5. *Sloan v. Google LLC*, No. 5:23-CV-00164-KDB-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172923 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 6, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171577 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 23, 2024).

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6. *BohoBlu, LLC v. BluBoho.com Inc.*, 3:23-CV-00016-RJC-SCR, 2024 WL 1364755 (W.D.N.C. Mar. 1, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 WL 1363925 (W.D.N.C. Mar. 29, 2024).

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7. *Starr Indem. & Liab. Co. v. RXO Capacity Sols., LLC*, No. 3:23-CV-00572-KDB-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 106252 (W.D.N.C. May 10, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 105480 (W.D.N.C. June 13, 2024).

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8. *Hubbard v. Wallenstein*, No. 3:23-CV-00202-RJC-SCR 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 173812 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 16, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172742 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 24, 2024).

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9. *Worrell v. Peco Ins. LLC*, No. 3:23-CV-00004-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 152602 (W.D.N.C. July 31, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 152091 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 22, 2024).

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10. *Zhang v. United Health Grp., Inc.*, No. 5:23-CV-00194-KDB-SCR, 2024 WL 3576456 (W.D.N.C. June 28, 2024), *report and recommendation adopted*, 2024 WL 3571740 (W.D.N.C. July 29, 2024), *adhered to on reconsideration*, 2024 WL 3643257 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 1, 2024).

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e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

None.

f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

To date, I have only one Memorandum and Recommendation in which the District Court Judge did not adopt. However, the Fourth Circuit later reversed the District Court Judge (the Fourth Circuit found similarly as to my original Memorandum and Recommendation). *C.G.A. by & Through R.A. v. Iredell-Statesville Sch. Dist. Bd. of Educ.*, No. 5:20-CV-00192-KDB-SCR (Oct. 18, 2023). Copy Supplied.

District Judge's Opinion: *R.A. v. Iredell-Statesville Sch. Dist. Bd. of Educ.*, No. 5:20-CV-00192-KDB-SCR, 2023 WL 8461634, at *1 (W.D.N.C. Dec. 6, 2023), *rev'd*, *R.A. v. McClenahan*, 122 F.4th 143 (4th Cir. 2024).

g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

As a United States Magistrate Judge, many of my opinions are not selected for publication in reporters. I estimate that in my two and a half years as a Magistrate Judge, I issued approximately 2,913 orders in 2024 in both criminal and civil matters. In 2023, I issued approximately 2,384 orders. All reported and unreported opinions I have issued are filed and stored on CM/ECF, the federal court Case Management/Electronic Case Files system. I have provided citations to Westlaw or Lexis where available, which represent less than 10% of the orders or opinions issued.

h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

United States v. Whittaker, No. 3:24-cr-00180-JAG-SCR-1 (W.D.N.C.) (Aug. 7, 2025). Copy supplied.

United States v. Orr, No. 3:23-CR-00208-FDW-SCR, (W.D.N.C.) (Sept. 30, 2024) (copy supplied), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2025 WL 572887, at *1 (W.D.N.C. Feb. 21, 2025).

Puranda v. City of Charlotte, No. 3:23-CV-00864-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 186780 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 9, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 177967 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 30, 2024).

Robey v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Bd. of Educ., No. 3:24-CV-00004-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 186785 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 30, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 177990 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 30, 2024).

Rohrer v. City of Gastonia, No. 3:23-CV-00396-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 243935 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 26, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2025 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 144200 (W.D.N.C. July 28, 2025).

Hubbard v. Wallenstein, No. 3:23-CV-00202-RJC-SCR 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 173812 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 16, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172742 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 24, 2024).

Reid v. Town of Dallas, No. 3:23-cv-00146-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 173818 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 12, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted sub nom., Reid v. Scarborough*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172735 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 24, 2024).

Sloan v. Google LLC, No. 5:23-CV-00164-KDB-SCR, 2024 WL 4273590, at *4 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 6, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 WL 4271593 (W.D.N.C. Sept. 23, 2024).

Mitchell v. City of Charlotte, No. 3:23-cv-00006-RJC-SCR, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59629 (W.D.N.C. Mar. 1, 2024), *memorandum and recommendation adopted*, 2024 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 58696 (W.D.N.C. Mar. 29, 2024).

United States v. Gill, No. 3:22-CR-00210-FDW-SCR, 2023 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 189010 (W.D.N.C. July 20, 2023), *memorandum and recommendation adopted, United States v. Gill*, 2023 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 188376 (W.D.N.C. Oct. 18, 2023).

i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority,

dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

None.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

I have never been asked by motion or suggestion by a litigant or a party that I should recuse. However, I issued an order on a motion referred to me by the district court judge in *United States v. Curry*, 3:16-cr-74 (W.D.N.C.), denying a *pro se* prisoner's request for recusal of all judges in the district. Copy supplied.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina employs an "automatic" recusal system based on identified conflicts like spouse's place of work, former law firms (for a period of time), cases in which I was previously an attorney of record, and financial interests or holdings. That system scans filed and assigned cases and is managed by our Deputy Clerk of Court. I am required to maintain a conflicts list that is routinely reviewed and updated. I also monitor my assigned cases for any other potential conflicts, such as those involving my law clerks or anything else that might create a potential conflict or an appearance of impropriety. To the extent that I have recused due to a conflict, that system is automatic based on my maintained and routinely updated conflicts list.

15. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

I have not held public office other than judicial office.

b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

Volunteer Attorney, NC Election Day, Republican National Lawyers Association, 2016 and 2020.

Volunteer Marion County, Kentucky Campaign Chair, Mitch McConnell for U.S. Senator, 2002.

Volunteer Intern, Republican Party of Kentucky, ~2002.

16. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

From August 2009 to January 2011, I served as a law clerk to the Honorable Frank D. Whitney, U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, handling both civil and criminal matters.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I did not practice alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each;

November 2011 – March 2023

McGuireWoods

201 North Tryon Street

Suite 3000

Charlotte, NC 28202

Associate (2011 – 2017)

Partner (2017 – 2023)

Co-Leader, Financial Institutions Industry Team (2017–2023)

October 2006 – November 2011 (Leave of Absence August 2009 – January 2011 to

complete judicial clerkship)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane Building 410
Washington, District of Columbia 20528
Policy Advisor (October 2006 – August 2009; January 2011 – November 2011)

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

During my legal practice, I did not serve as a mediator or arbitrator.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

My private practice experience from 2011 to 2023 focused on civil and criminal government investigations and white-collar matters. I represented clients in numerous government investigations by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), among others. Although much of my practice involved financial institution clients, as technology evolved, I began to focus more on a fintech practice as many clients faced challenges in a developing legal and regulatory environment. I was recognized for my work for clients through Chambers rankings in both 2022 and 2023 for Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations in North Carolina and nationally for Fintech Legal: Corporate, Securities & Financing. I also was named to "North Carolina Rising Stars," Government Relations, Super Lawyers, 2017-2019.

Prior to that I worked on policy issues at the Department of Homeland Security on topics such as cyber security, state fusion centers, suspicious activity reporting, border searches, intelligence gathering, and immigration.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

Throughout my legal career, I primarily represented companies in the banking and fintech areas in response to government investigations (both civil and criminal investigations). Occasionally, I represented individual defendants or witnesses in criminal investigations. I also led high-profile internal investigations for major financial institutions related to Anti-Money Laundering and fraud-related issues, and served as counsel to the court-appointed receiver of an international Ponzi and pyramid scheme following a securities fraud action filed by the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC).

c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

At the Department of Homeland Security, I did not appear in court, but rather handled policy issues on topics such as cyber security, state fusion centers, suspicious activity reporting, border searches, intelligence gathering, and immigration.

At McGuireWoods both as a Partner and as an Associate, I engaged in numerous civil litigation matters that required my appearance in court at least several times each year. Also, I focused on government and internal investigations, which only required occasional court appearances in both civil and criminal matters each year. Most of my cases concluded with a civil settlement with the government. During COVID, many courts were shut down, and there were few appearances from March 2020 through early 2021.

i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. | federal courts: | 75% |
| 2. | state courts of record: | 15% |
| 3. | other courts: | 0% |
| 4. | administrative agencies: | 10% |

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. | civil proceedings: | 60% |
| 2. | criminal proceedings: | 40% |

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

Three cases. One was before a court appointed arbitrator with authority to issue a binding decision; two were final judgment. I was lead counsel for each case.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1. | jury: | 0% (Note: however, I participated in several criminal jury trials representing multiple witnesses). |
| 2. | non-jury: | 100% |

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have never appeared before the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

- 1. *United States v. Piver*, No. 5:19-CR-230 (E.D.N.C.) (Judge Terrance W. Boyle)
(Representation: 2019 – 2020)

I was the supervising partner and co-led the criminal defense of an attorney, David Piver, in a seven-count felony indictment in the Eastern District of North Carolina. The Government agreed to dismiss the Indictment and accept a plea by Piver to a single misdemeanor charge. At the sentencing, Judge Boyle decided to give Defendant Piver only a \$1000 fine with no further consequences.

Co-Counsel:

Lawrence Cameron
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Charlotte, NC 28202
704-998-6509

Nicole Giffin
McGuireWoods (now at Troutman Pepper Locke)
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704-385-1394

Opposing Counsel:

Sebastian Kielmanovich
Assistant U.S. Attorney, United States Attorney's Office EDNC (now at Triangle
Immigration & Criminal Defense)

150 Fayetteville Street
Suite 300
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-410-8494

2. *Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc. v. Al-Baghal, et. al.*, No. 2:16-cv-02244
(D. Kan.) (Judge Teresa J. James) (Representation: 2016 – 2017)

I was lead counsel for Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated in a federal interpleader action involving a dispute over the distribution of decedent's multi-million accounts and Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) restrictions related to Syria. I drafted several briefs, argued before the Court, negotiated a settlement with dismissal of the case, and recovered attorneys' fees based on a contractual provision.

Local Counsel:

Michael J. Abrams
Lathrop & Gage, LLP
2345 Grand Blvd.
Suite 2200
Kansas City, MO 64108
816-460-5530

Other Counsel:

Carlo Rodes
McGuireWoods (now at Meta)
10030 Triple Oak Road
Charlotte, NC 28277
818-481-4500

Opposing Counsel:

Thomas M. Martin
Lewis Rice
1010 Walnut, Suite 500
Kansas City, MO 64106
816-472-2525

Anne Linton Pond
Van Osdol PC (now at Complete Estate & Probate Law)
1041 Holmes Rd.
Suite 210
Kansas City, MO 64131
816-601-1234

3. *Verdesi v. Ark Rustic Inn, LLC d/b/a Rustic Inn Crabhouse*, 13 OCAHO no. 1311, Case No. 17B00096 (2018) (Administrative Law Judge Thomas P. McCarthy) (Representation: 2017 – 2018) U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer. Copy supplied.

I solely led the successful defense of a restaurant (part of a larger restaurant chain) in an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice, and later defended a complaint by the former employee alleging discrimination. I drafted a motion to dismiss based on a statutory argument under 8 U.S.C. § 1324b, and argued the motion before the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The ALJ ruled in my client's favor and dismissed the complaint in a published decision. The decision was appealable directly to the U.S. Court of Appeals with jurisdiction, but complainant opted not to appeal.

Opposing Counsel:

Nnamdi S. Jackson, for Vieri Verdesi,
The Broward County Clerk of Courts
201 SE 6th St Rm 18150
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
954-831-5849

Gloria Yi (last known contact information below)
U.S. Department of Justice
150 M St NE # 7, Washington, DC, 20002-3388
202-616-3975

4. *In re Estate of Mary Louise Teiber Briece*, 16SL-PR-2256, St. Louis County Circuit Court, Missouri (Judge Ellen Sue Levy) (Representation: 2016 – 2019)

I co-defended Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated against breach of contract, negligence, and breach of fiduciary duty claims. This representation also included a lengthy interlocutory appeal on a motion to compel arbitration, which was denied at the trial court level. The case included complex discovery and multiple depositions. After court hearings on various non-dispositive and dispositive motions, the parties settled pending a final ruling on the motion for summary judgment.

Co-counsel:

Brian Pumphrey
Partner, McGuireWoods
800 East Canal Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804-775-7745

Local Counsel of Record:

Robert J. Will
Lewis Rice
600 Washington Avenue
Suite 2500
St. Louis, MO 63101
314-444-7702

Opposing Counsel:

Timothy J. Lemen
Rossiter & Boock, LLC (now at Lemen Legal Services, LLC)
2115 S. Big Bend Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63117
314-499-8506

Mike Bartolacci
Thompson Coburn (now at ArchBridge Family Office, General Counsel)
7701 Forsyth Boulevard
Suite 1100
St. Louis, MO 63105
314-719-2134

5. *United States v. Moore, et al.*, 2:13-cr-00330 (D.S.C.) (Judge Richard Gergel) (Representation: 2013 – 2014), Judge Richard Gergel; *Latham v. Latham, Bank of America, N.A.*, 2013-CP-10-2189, Court of Common Pleas, Ninth Judicial Circuit, County of Charleston, South Carolina (Judge Roger M. Young, Sr.) (Representation: 2013 – 2014)

I represented Bank of America and approximately 15 testifying witness employees in a federal criminal trial involving two former employee Defendants, Chris Latham and Wendy Moore. Mr. Latham was accused of having an affair with his secretary and plotting to kill his estranged ex-wife, and then destroying his work computer to hide evidence. The FBI and ATF investigated, and the Bank was a known cooperating witness. This case made national headlines, and the two were convicted following a February 2014 jury trial, where Moore was convicted of Conspiracy and Use of Interstate Facilities in the Commission of Murder for Hire under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1958(a), 1958(b); Solicitation of Murder for Hire under 18 U.S.C. § 373; and Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence under 18 U.S.C. § 924(c). Latham was convicted of Use of Interstate Facilities in the Commission of Murder for Hire under 18 U.S.C. § 1958(a).

I also successfully represented Bank of America in a civil case related to the matter, achieving a complete dismissal of the causes of action for negligent supervision and intentional infliction of emotional distress, filed through local counsel.

Local Counsel on record (on behalf of McGuireWoods):

Thomas Richmond McPherson, III
Bowman and Brooke LLP
1942 East 7th Street
Suite 360
Charlotte, NC 28204
980-987-3712

Dawes M. Cooke
Barnwell Whaley
211 King St.
Charleston, SC 29401
843-577-7700

Other Co-Counsel:

Kenneth D. Bell (now U.S. District Court Judge for the Western District of North Carolina)
401 West Trade Street
Charlotte, NC 28203
704-350-7440

Brad Kutrow
Partner, McGuireWoods LLP
201 North Tryon Street
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Charlotte, NC 28202
704-343-2049

Brian Pumphrey
Partner, McGuireWoods
800 East Canal Street
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804-775-7745

Robert Muckenfuss
Partner, McGuireWoods
201 North Tryon Street
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Charlotte, NC 28202
704-343-2052

Counsel for the Government:

Nathan S. Williams

(then Assistant United States Attorney, now The Law Offices of Nathan S. Williams)
266 W. Coleman Boulevard
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Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
843-473-7000

Rhett DeHart
(then Assistant United States Attorney, now Womble Bond Dickinson)
5 Exchange Street
Charleston, SC 29402
843-720-4665

6. *Consumer Financial Protection Bureau v. Sprint Corp.*, No. 1:14-cv-09931,
(S.D.N.Y.) (Judge William Henry Pauley III) (Representation: 2014 – 2015)

Along with several other attorneys at my prior firm, I defended Sprint Corporation in a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), Federal Communication Commission (FCC), and 50-state attorneys general investigation and subsequent lawsuit filed in the Southern District of New York involving allegations of unauthorized third-party charges. The matter ultimately concluded in a Final Stipulated Judgment and Order involving a \$68 million dollar settlement.

Other attorneys representing Sprint:

Jeffrey James Chapman
McGuireWoods
1345 Avenue of the Americas
7th Floor
New York, NY 10105
212-548-7060

Jeffrey M. Hanna
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800 East Canal Street
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John D. Adams
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Matthew A. Fitzgerald
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804-775-4716

Counsel for CFPB:

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CFPB (now at McGuireWoods)
888 16th Street N.W.
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Washington, DC 20006
202-857-1717

Genessa Stout
CFPB (now at Ebay)
50 Lansing Street
#401
San Francisco, CA 94105
206-228-4891

7. *Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc. v. Flanders-Borden*, No. 1:17-cv-11681-GAO (D. Mass.) (Judge George A. O'Toole, Jr.); *Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc. v. Flanders-Borden*, 11 F. 4th 12 (1st Cir. 2021) (Judge William J. Kayatta, Jr.) (Representation: 2017 – 2021)

I oversaw a federal interpleader action utilizing co-counsel from my prior firm in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts awarding summary judgment in my client's favor with an award of attorney's fees. The opposing party appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. I also worked on the appellate brief, and the First Circuit affirmed the judgment of the district court in my client's favor in a published opinion addressing issues of joinder, waiver, and choice-of-law arguments.

Co-Counsel (Counsel of Record):

Nellie E. Hestin
McGuireWoods
EQT Plaza
625 Liberty Avenue, 23rd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-667-7909

Jodie Lawson
McGuireWoods
201 North Tryon Street
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Charlotte, NC 28202
704-343-2329

Opposing Counsel:

Hilary S. Schultz
Schultz Law, LLP
231 Chief Justice Cushing Highway
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Cohasset, MA 02025
617-951-9980

Kathleen H. McLean
Horan McLean & Horan
17 Orchid Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
508-991-2216

Scott E. Adams
153 Water Street
Randolph, ME 04346
617-694-1332

Robert D. Loventhal
145 Morris Lane
Unit D 101
Lake Forest, IL 60045
617-501-8285

Kenneth W. Augen
Augen Law Offices
392 Hancock Street
N. Quincy, MA 02171
617-331-3141

8. *Whiting v. Truist Bank f/k/a Branch Banking and Trust Company*, No. 3:21-cv-00342-RJC-DSC (W.D.N.C.) (Judge Robert J. Conrad) (Representation: 2022)

I, along with co-counsel, represented Truist Bank in defending allegations of retaliation and wrongful termination based on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, and the Bank Secrecy Act. I worked on the Motion to Dismiss and Answer, and the case resolved at the mediation stage.

Co-Counsel:

Meredith Anne Pinson
McGuireWoods
201 North Tryon Street

Suite 3000
Charlotte, NC 28202
704-343-2252

Katharine Yale Barnes
McGuireWoods
201 N. Tryon Street
Suite 3000
Charlotte, NC 28202
704-343-2061

Opposing Counsel:

Jennifer D Spyker
Tin, Fulton, Walker & Owen, PLLC
301 East Park Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28203
704-338-1220

Margaret (Meg) Behringer Maloney
Maloney Law & Associates, PLLC
1824 East Seventh Street
Charlotte, NC 28204
704-632-1622

9. *Birone-Bay Ouma v. Metropolitan Jewish Health System d/b/a HomeCare Solutions*, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer OCAHO Case No. 18B0008 (Administrative Law Judge) (Representation: 2017 – 2020); *Birone-Bay Ouma v. Metropolitan Jewish Health System, et al.*, No. 100426/2020, Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York (Judge Shlomo S. Hagler) (Representation: 2020)

I led the defense of Metropolitan Jewish Health System in an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice Immigrant and Employee Rights Section, and later defended a complaint by the former job applicant for alleged discrimination under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA)), 8 U.S.C. § 1324b. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department of Justice opted not to file a complaint against my client. The individual exercised her option to file a complaint with OCAHO that was dismissed. Later, the former job applicant filed a separate complaint in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York alleging state claims for unlawful employment discrimination. The motion to dismiss filed on behalf of my client was granted.

Pro Se Plaintiff

Co-Counsel (on New York State case):

Philip A. Goldstein

McGuireWoods
1251 Avenue of the Americas
20th Floor
New York, NY 10020-1104
212-548-2167

Counsel for the Government:

Richard Crespo
Senior Trial Attorney
U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
1425 New York Ave NW FL 9
Washington, DC 20005
202-514-6181

10. *Securities & Exchange Commission v. Cammarata*, No. 2:21-cv-04845, (E.D.P.A.)
(Judge Chad F. Kenney) (Representation: 2022 – 2023)

I represented my client Bank of America, N.A. and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated in intervening and seeking payoff of approximately \$12.5 million of loans taken by Defendant Cammarata, who faced both a civil action by the SEC and a criminal indictment that led to the freezing of his assets. The Court ultimately permitted the requested relief.

Co-Counsel:

Jason H. Cowley
McGuireWoods
201 North Tryon Street
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704-343-2030

Nellie E. Hestin
Jarrod Shaw
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EQT Plaza
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412-667-7909

Shawn R. Fox
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1251 Avenue of the Americas
20th Floor
New York, NY 10020
212-548-2165

Counsel for the Securities & Exchange Commission:

John V. Donnelly, III
Securities & Exchange Commission
1617 JFK Boulevard
Suite 520
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-597-3100

Counsel for the Government:

David J. Ignall
U.S. Attorney's Office
Eastern District of Pennsylvania
(currently on assignment at the National Advocacy Center)
1620 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201
803-705-5148

Paul G. Shapiro
U.S. Attorney's Office
Eastern District of Pennsylvania
615 Chestnut Street
Suite 1250
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-861-8325

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

In addition to the matters described above, I represented banking and fintech clients in numerous internal investigations related to alleged fraud, embezzlement, employee misconduct, check kiting, and Ponzi schemes. These investigations were designed to ensure compliance with various applicable statutes and regulations.

I represented Kabbage before the Small Business Administration in an effort to resolve issues related to loans issued under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in 2022 – 2023.

I advised multiple banking and fintech clients on creation of programs and other compliance issues related to the Bank Secrecy Act and Anti-Money Laundering statutes.

I represented banking or banking adjacent clients in investigations brought by the CFPB that were resolved before a civil case filing.

I represented several individual clients and corporations in criminal investigations that did not result in criminal charges being filed.

I have never acted or registered as a lobbyist.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide copies to the committee.

Charlotte School of Law, Adjunct Professor, Legal Writing, spring and fall of 2010 (no syllabus available).

Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, Student Writing Fellow, ~2008 – 2009, (no syllabus available).

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

None.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

No.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

When my nomination is formally transmitted to the Senate, I will file my Financial Disclosure Report and will supplement this Questionnaire with a copy of that Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

As a U.S. Magistrate Judge, I maintain a list of potential conflicts that is regularly updated. I have included my prior law firm, McGuireWoods, and my husband and sister-in-law's employers, financial interests or holdings as reflected on my financial disclosure report, cases in which I was previously an attorney of record, and former large clients for a cooling off period.

b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina employs an "automatic" recusal system based on identified conflicts like spouse's place of work, former law firms (for a period of time), cases in which I was previously an attorney of record, and financial interests or holdings. That system scans filed and assigned cases and is managed by our Deputy Clerk of Court.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

Giving back through pro bono work has been important to me throughout my career because it exemplifies service to others. I also made the Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy Pro Bono Honor Roll in 2022 based on the number of hours dedicated to pro bono service. This has included representing several clients over the years in matters such as:

Foster v. S and Sons Automotive Inc. d/b/a Speedee Oil Change and Auto Service, et al., No. 17 CVS-11544, Mecklenburg County (NC) Superior Court. Defendant failed to replace the oil in Plaintiff's car resulting in total damage to her engine. Defendant refused to compensate her for the damage. The case was tried before a court appointed arbitrator and resulted in a judgment in my client's favor, including treble damages.

Blunt v. Rand Street, Inc., No. 16-CVS-007005-590, Mecklenburg County (NC) Superior Court. I recovered treble damages under the North Carolina Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices Act on behalf of a pro bono Plaintiff whose contractor left in the middle of building a new porch taking most of Plaintiff's retirement savings. I successfully obtained a civil judgment against Defendant, and identified other legal remedies to fulfill the judgment.

Thompson v. Steele, No. 18-CVS-019091-590, Mecklenburg County (NC) Superior Court. I recovered treble damages for a pro bono Plaintiff who had her money stolen after attempting to purchase a food truck. I obtained a civil judgment against Defendant, and then identified a surety bond held by Defendant that paid off the judgment.

United States v. Hanley, No. 3:11-cr-00207 (W.D.N.C. 2012). I represented Defendant, along with co-counsel, pro bono during the sentencing phase of Defendant's criminal case after he pled guilty to Conspiracy to Defraud the United States - Commercial Loan Fraud Conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 and Money Laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h).

26. **Selection Process:**

a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

I was invited to submit my resume in or around August and September of 2023 for the two vacancies in the Western District of North Carolina. I then interviewed with Senator Tillis and Senator Budd on September 15, 2023. I was referred to the White House for consideration, and had a virtual meeting on January 10, 2024. I continued to have outreach and communications with Senator Tillis' and Senator Budd's staff. I also met with Senator Tillis and Senator Budd on June 3, 2025. I received communications from the White House on July 10, 2025, and interviewed with attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office in Washington, D.C. on July 25, 2025. Since then, I have been in contact with officials from the White House Counsel's Office and the Office of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice. On August 20, 2025, the President called to tell me I would be nominated.

b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Susan Courtwright Rodriguez, do swear that the information provided in this statement is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

8-18-2025
(DATE)

Susan Courtwright Rodriguez
(NAME)

Joan C. Bartley
(NOTARY)

