

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

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

James Edward Baxter Kruger

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

United States Attorney, Southern District of Mississippi, U.S. Department of Justice

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.

Office:

Mississippi Department of Public Safety
Mississippi Office of Homeland Security
1900 E. Woodrow Wilson Ave.
Jackson, MS 39216

Physical Location:

1 Mema Drive
Pearl, MS 39208

Residence: Jackson, MS

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

1987; Aberdeen, Scotland, United Kingdom

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.

Mississippi College School of Law, July 2012 - May 2015
Doctor of Jurisprudence - May 9, 2015

University of Mississippi, August 2006 - December 2010
Bachelor of Arts - December 11, 2010

Hinds Community College, January 2007 - May 2007
No Degree

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.

November 2021 - Present

Executive Director and Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor
Mississippi Department of Public Safety
Mississippi Office of Homeland Security
1900 E. Woodrow Wilson Ave.
Jackson, MS 39216

Physical Location:

1 Mema Drive
Pearl, MS 39208
Paid

September 2019 - November 2021

Assistant United States Attorney
United States Attorney's Office
Southern District of Mississippi
501 E. Court St., Suite 4.430
Jackson, MS 39201
Paid

March 23, 2007 - Present

Cavalry Scout (Enlisted)
March 23, 2007 - November 18, 2019
Mississippi National Guard
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202
Paid

November 2019 - Present

Judge Advocate (Officer)
Mississippi National Guard
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202
Paid

August 2015 - November 2015

Aide-de-Camp
Mike Hurst for Attorney General

10 Lakeland Circle
Jackson, MS 39216
Paid

June 2014 - November 2014
Campaign Coordinator
Committee to Re-Elect Jeff Weill
1501 Lakeland Drive #300
Jackson, MS 39216
Paid

May 2013 - August 2013
Fellow
Mississippi College School of Law
151 East Griffith Street
Jackson, MS 39201
Paid

January 2012 - May 2012
Marketing Specialist
Mississippi Treasury Department
501 North West Street, Suite 1101
Jackson, MS 39201
Paid

August 2011 - January 2012
Field Director
Lynn Fitch for Treasurer
10605 Eagle Bend Road
Yazoo City, MS 39194
Paid

February 2011 - August 2011
Aide-de-Camp
Dave Dennis
P.O. Box 7001
Gulfport, MS 39506
*This was a political campaign, there was not a brick-and-mortar campaign headquarters,
and I did not have an office.
Paid

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.

Mississippi Army National Guard
Major (Date of Rank, Effective: February 17, 2023)
Captain (Date of Rank, Effective: August 9, 2017)
First Lieutenant (Date of Rank, Effective: November 19, 2015)
Sergeant (Date of Rank, Effective: February 26, 2013)
Specialist (Date of Rank, Effective: July 12, 2010)
Private First Class (Date of Rank, Effective: March 23, 2007)
Currently Serving

I have registered 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.

40 Under 40, Ole Miss Alumni Association, March 28, 2025
Order of St. George Black Medallion, United States Cavalry & Armor Association, February 22, 2019
Honor Graduate, Basic Training, E Co. 1 - 46 IN, Fort Knox, KY, August 3, 2007
Meritorious Unit Commendation, July 27, 2020
Army Commendation Medal, June 13, 2017; March 15, 2019; June 30, 2020
Army Achievement Medal, August 3, 2007; June 13, 2013; November 28, 2018
National Defense Service Medal, September 11, 2007
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, March 9, 2019
Overseas Service Ribbon, May 14, 2019
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" Device, May 19, 2019
Army Service Ribbon, September 20, 2007

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.

The Mississippi Bar, (September 2015 - Present)
Federalist Society, Mississippi Chapter (November 2024 - Present)
American Inns of Court, Charles Clark Chapter (Associate: September 2019 - August 2022)

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.

Mississippi, September 2015

- 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.

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit (September 2019)
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi (September 2019)
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi (September 2019)
All state courts in Mississippi (September 2015)

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.

Ole Miss Alumni Association (2010 - Present)
National Guard Association - Life Member (2015 - Present)
First Presbyterian Church of Jackson (2017 - Present)
National Rifle Association - Member (2020-2024) Life Member (2025 - Present)
River Hills Club (2021 - Present)
151 Society, Mississippi College School of Law (2024 - Present)

- b. 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 my knowledge, none of these organizations 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 four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

I have done my best to identify all books, articles, letters to the editor, editorial pieces and other published material, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, I have been unable to identify, find, or remember any such publications.

- b. Supply four (4) 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.

I have done my best to identify any reports, memoranda, or policy statements I have prepared or contributed to, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, I have been unable to identify, find, or remember any such publications.

- c. Supply four (4) 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.

I have done my best to identify any testimony, official statements, or other communications related, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, I have been unable to identify, find, or remember any such publications.

- d. Supply four (4) 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.

I have done my best to identify transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I frequently speak without notes or speak from a handwritten outline. I did not retain the majority of the handwritten outlines and have attached all that I could find. Despite my searches, there may be other materials I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following:

June 2, 2019

Mississippi National Guard JAG Continuing Legal Education Seminar:
“Legal Lessons from 155 ABCT JA’s”
Copy supplied.

July 22, 2019

American Inns of Court, Charles Clark
Capital Club
125 S Congress Street, Suite 1900
Jackson, MS 39201

“Legal Issues Affecting Citizen Soldiers”.

Presentations at the Inn are given by “pupilage groups” and are typically round table discussions with each member presenting a portion of the topic.

I spoke about the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act and the Service Members Civil Relief Act.

August 6, 2019

Mississippi National Guard Fiscal Law Course
Joint Force Headquarters
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202

“Continuing Resolutions & Funding Gaps”, “The Anti-Deficiency Act”, & “The Basics of Federal Fiscal Law”

Copy supplied.

January 27, 2020

American Inns of Court, Charles Clark
Capital Club
125 S Congress Street, Suite 1900
Jackson, MS 39201

“A Primer on the New Mississippi Guardianship and Conservator Act”

Presentations at the Inn are given by “pupilage groups” and are typically round table discussions with each member presenting a portion of the topic.

I participated in a presentation of the Mississippi Guardianship and Conservator Act, also known as the GAP Act, that took effect in January 2020. This act revised Mississippi’s guardianship and conservatorship laws. Our group presented those changes and led a discussion with the audience.

August 18, 2020

Mississippi National Guard Fiscal Law Course
Joint Force Headquarters
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202

“Time” & “The Judgement Fund”

Copy supplied.

July 26, 2021
American Inns of Court, Charles Clark
Capital Club
125 S Congress Street, Suite 1900
Jackson, MS 39201
“Mississippi New Laws Update”

Presentations at the Inn are given by “pupilage groups” and are typically round table discussions with each member presenting a portion of the topic. I presented the Mississippi Fairness Act (SB2536) which was passed during the 2021 regular session of the Mississippi State Legislature. The law requires any public school, public institution of higher learning or institution of higher learning that is a member of the NCAA, NAIA, MHSAA or NJCCA to designate its athletic teams or sports according to biological sex; to provide protection for any school or institution of higher education that maintains separate athletic teams or sport for students of the female sex; to create private causes of action; and for related purposes.

August 17, 2021
Mississippi National Guard Fiscal Law Course
Joint Force Headquarters
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202
“Time”
Copy supplied.

February 3, 2022
Vicksburg Rotary Club
Vicksburg Country Club
127 County Club Drive
Vicksburg, MS 39180

For the Rotary Clubs and Republican Women’s Clubs, I spoke primarily in line with the provided General PowerPoint (however, I did not use it as part of my presentation). I gave an overview of what MOHS is responsible for and the divisions. I also answered questions regarding illegal immigration, terrorism and threats, critical infrastructure, and child safety. I have provided the outline that I have worked off for each of these presentations (although I rarely follow it). It is always my preference, when speaking to small groups with limited time, to allow them to ask questions so that we may have more of a dialogue than a prepared speech.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16dXaC2aBU/?mibextid=wwXIf>

June 2, 2022
Mississippi Rural Water Association, Inc.
Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center
2350 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi, MS 39531

Technical Conference and Exhibition

Water Sector Security Overview

I spoke alongside COL Lee Henry, MSARNG and Martin Rivera, Mississippi Cyber Initiative.

Copy supplied.

June 8, 2022

McComb Rotary Club

Golden Corral

200 Anna Dr. Extended

McComb, MS 39648

For the Rotary Clubs and Republican Women's Clubs, I spoke primarily in line with the provided General PowerPoint (however, I did not use it as part of my presentation). I gave an overview of what MOHS is responsible for and the divisions. I also answered questions regarding illegal immigration, terrorism and threats, critical infrastructure, and child safety. I have provided the outline that I have worked off for each of these presentations (although I rarely follow it). It is always my preference, when speaking to small groups with limited time, to allow them to ask questions so that we may have more of a dialogue than a prepared speech.

www.facebook.com/MccombRotary/posts/today-our-club-welcomed-baxter-kruger-executive-director-of-the-mississippi-offi/5483772985047684/

July 25, 2022

American Inns of Court, Charles Clark

Capital Club

125 S Congress Street, Suite 1900

Jackson, MS 39201

“The Defenders: How Lawyers Protected the Movement”

Presentations at the Inn are given by “pupilage groups” and are typically round table discussions with each member presenting a portion of the topic.

We screened a short film (Trailer: <https://youtu.be/xLQVxz1DZIO>). The filmmakers spoke about its creation and former Mississippi Supreme Court Justices Fred Banks and Reuben Anderson made comments. I did not speak at this event but was part of the pupilage group responsible for the presentation.

July 28, 2022

National Security Agency (NSA) NCAE-C Executive Leadership Forum, Cyber Workforce Trends Panel

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

iMPAC Auditorium

409 Debuys Road

Gulfport, MS 39507

I spoke primarily on the need for academia to focus more on the development of a cyber work force than general cybersecurity education. There are a number of open jobs around the United States that have gone unfilled because of the lack of

focus on the technical certifications required and critical experience. I suggested the partnering of academic institutions with public and private sector agencies to develop students so that they are ready to join the workforce as soon as they graduate. If I recall correctly, we had several bomb threats that day, part of a national trend, including a threat to MGCCC. I had to cut my remarks short to manage Mississippi's response.

November 8, 2022
Columbus Rotary Club
Lions Hill Center and Golf Club
2331 Military Road
Columbus, MS 39705

For the Rotary Clubs and Republican Women's Clubs, I spoke primarily in line with the provided General PowerPoint (however, I did not use it as part of my presentation). I gave an overview of what MOHS is responsible for and the divisions. I also answered questions regarding illegal immigration, terrorism and threats, critical infrastructure, and child safety. I have provided the outline that I have worked off for each of these presentations (although I rarely follow it). It is always my preference, when speaking to small groups with limited time, to allow them to ask questions so that we may have more of a dialogue than a prepared speech.

<https://cdispatch.com/news/cyberspace-serves-as-developing-threat-stream-for-homeland-security/>

November 15, 2022
Mississippi Civil Defense Emergency Management Association
Pearl River Resort, Silver Star Casino
13541 MS-16
Pear River Resort-Choctaw
Philadelphia, MS 39350

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

January 9, 2023
Starkville Rotary Club
Hilton Garden Inn
975 Highway 12 East
Starkville, MS 39759

For the Rotary Clubs and Republican Women's Clubs, I spoke primarily in line with the provided General PowerPoint (however, I did not use it as part of my presentation). I gave an overview of what MOHS is responsible for and the divisions. I also answered questions regarding illegal immigration, terrorism and threats, critical infrastructure, and child safety. I have provided the outline that I have worked off for each of these presentations (although I rarely follow it). It is always my preference, when speaking to small groups with limited time, to allow

them to ask questions so that we may have more of a dialogue than a prepared speech.

www.starkvilledailynews.com/news/mohs-director-kruger-strives-to-make-mississippi-safer/article_17c45404-9123-11ed-9d1a-fff3b05e4b92.html

June 8, 2023

Mississippi Sheriffs Association
Golden Nugget Biloxi
151 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi, MS 39530

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

June 21, 2023

Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police
Golden Nugget Biloxi
151 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi, MS 39530

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

September 14, 2023

Mississippi National Guard Fiscal Law Course
Joint Force Headquarters
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202
“Continuing Resolution & Funding Gaps”

Copy supplied.

October 25, 2023

Mississippi Prosecutors Association Fall Prosecutors Conference
Mississippi Cyber Unit

Copy supplied.

November 14, 2023

Mississippi Civil Defense Emergency Management Association
Pearl River Resort, Silver Star Casino
13541 MS-16
Pear River Resort-Choctaw
Philadelphia, MS 39350

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

April 6, 2024

Mississippi National Guard JAG Continuing Legal Education Seminar
Joint Force Headquarters
ATTN: Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202

“Legal Considerations & Issues in the Army and Air Drug Testing Process”

This was a panel discussion. At its core we discussed the drug testing process in the military, commanders’ pertaining to drug use by their subordinates, perceived vs. actual accuracy of the tests, the considerations that should be taken when a servicemember tests positive, etc.

April 30, 2024

Mississippi Partners in Preparedness
IP Casino
850 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39530

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

May 20, 2024

Mississippi Public Safety Summit
Sheraton Flowood the Refuge Hotel & Conference Center
2200 Refuge Boulevard
Flowood, MS 39232

“Working Together to Enhance School Safety”

I gave opening remarks. I introduced the speakers and welcomed the participants. The presentation was made by Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) Deputy Director Jim Brinson, Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) General Counsel Erin Meyer, and MDE Director Brian McGarity. They talked about various programs, initiatives, and training opportunities offered through MDE and MOHS, including Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) and Threat Assessment and Threat Management (TATM).

June 6, 2024

Mississippi Sheriffs Association
Golden Nugget Biloxi
151 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi, MS 39530

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

October 28, 2024

Republican Women Rankin County

City of Brandon Senior Center
1000 Municipal Drive
Brandon, MS 39042

For the Rotary Clubs and Republican Women's Clubs, I spoke primarily in line with the provided General PowerPoint (however, I did not use it as part of my presentation). I gave an overview of what MOHS is responsible for and the divisions. I also answered questions regarding illegal immigration, terrorism and threats, critical infrastructure, and child safety. I have provided the outline that I have worked off for each of these presentations (although I rarely follow it). It is always my preference, when speaking to small groups with limited time, to allow them to ask questions so that we may have more of a dialogue than a prepared speech.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16dteJRjPQ/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

October 29, 2024
IAIABC, NAWCJ, and CWCL 2024 Judicial Program
Judicial Security Session
Copy supplied.

November 19, 2024
Mississippi Civil Defense Emergency Management Association
Pearl River Resort, Silver Star Casino
13541 MS-16
Pear River Resort-Choctaw
Philadelphia, MS 39350

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

December 12, 2024
Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police
Oxford Conference Center
102 Ed Perry Boulevard
Oxford, MS 38655

I provided an update regarding the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to this group of professionals with whom my office works daily. I followed the general speech (provided) and opened for questions.

April 3, 2025
Republican Women of Simpson County
202 Universal Dr.
Mendenhall, MS 39114

For the Rotary Clubs and Republican Women's Clubs, I spoke primarily in line with the provided General PowerPoint (however, I did not use it as part of my presentation). I gave an overview of what MOHS is responsible for and the divisions. I also answered questions regarding illegal immigration, terrorism and

threats, critical infrastructure, and child safety. I have provided the outline that I have worked off for each of these presentations (although I rarely follow it). It is always my preference, when speaking to small groups with limited time, to allow them to ask questions so that we may have more of a dialogue than a prepared speech.

<https://mageenews.com/baxter-kruger-executive-director-of-ms-homeland-security-to-speak-at-republican-women-meeting/>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1EuAAfjngx/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

June 2, 2025

Republican Women of Lee County

Los Toros

1270 Oakview Dr.

Tupelo, MS 38804

For the Rotary Clubs and Republican Women's Clubs, I spoke primarily in line with the provided General PowerPoint (however, I did not use it as part of my presentation). I gave an overview of what MOHS is responsible for and the divisions. I also answered questions regarding illegal immigration, terrorism and threats, critical infrastructure, and child safety. I have provided the outline that I have worked off for each of these presentations (although I rarely follow it). It is always my preference, when speaking to small groups with limited time, to allow them to ask questions so that we may have more of a dialogue than a prepared speech.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16t7QNbtv1/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

- 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 four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

I have done my best to identify all interviews given, including through a review of my personal files, and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, there may be other materials that I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following:

August 22, 2023

Supertalk MS Gallo Radio Show- Law Enforcement Roundtable: Keeping Children Safe

www.youtube.com/watch?v=HawksS8OZ7wk

July 25, 2024

Supertalk MS Gallo Radio Show- Expert Analysis: Assassination Attempt Discussion

www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkBp5OOnPDw

June 26, 2025

Supertalk Mornings with Richard Cross
www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RrdD710pEg

13. 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 run for public office.

I have held the following appointed positions with the State of Mississippi:

Executive Director, Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, 2021-Present, I was appointed by Mississippi Department of Public Safety Commissioner Sean Tindell.

Homeland Security Advisor, 2021-Present, I was appointed by Governor Tate Reeves.

Chairman of the Mississippi Cyber Security Review Board, 2024-Present. The Executive Director of MOHS holds his position by statute. *See* Mississippi Code Annotated § 25-53-233.

Commissioner, Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission, 2021-Present. The Executive Director of MOHS holds his position by statute. *See* Mississippi Code Annotated § 25-53-171(2).

- 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.

Republican Party of Mississippi
Sergeant-at-Arms, State Convention, 2024
I coordinated security for the event, assisted the Chairman, when necessary, ensure that rules of the convention were followed.

Mike Hurst for Attorney General (R)
Aide-de-Camp
August 2015 - November 2015 (General Election)
I supported the candidate and campaign where necessary.

Committee to Re-Elect Jeff Weill
Campaign Coordinator
June 2014 - November 2014 (General Election)
I coordinated all activities of the campaign and staff.

Lynn Fitch for Treasurer
Field Director
August 2011 - January 2012 (Republican Run-off and General Election)
I coordinated all the field representatives of the campaign.

Dave Dennis
Aide-de-Camp
February 2011 - August 2011 (Republican Primary)
I supported the candidate and campaign where necessary.

14. **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;

I have not clerked for a judge.

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

I have not practiced 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.

2015-2019

Mississippi National Guard
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202

Position: Judge Advocate

I served full-time as Trial Counsel in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Joint Force Headquarters of the Mississippi National Guard (MSNG). My area of practice primarily focused on military law and work as general counsel to the Mississippi National Guard. From 2018 through 2019 I was activated, mobilized, and deployed with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team in support of Operation Spartan Shield, where I served as Operations Law Attorney and Judge Advocate Forward.

2019-2021

United States Attorney's Office
Southern District of Mississippi
501 E. Court St., Suite 4.430
Jackson, MS 39201

Position: Assistant United States Attorney

I investigated and prosecuted a broad range of federal criminal cases, including violent crimes, public corruption, financial fraud, and drug trafficking.

November 2021 - Present

Mississippi Department of Public Safety
Mississippi Office of Homeland Security
1900 E. Woodrow Wilson Ave.
Jackson, MS 39216

Position: Executive Director and Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor

While I am not actively practicing law in this role, I do advise my agents and analysts regarding our work, often this involves legal matters such as warrants, search and seizure, information gathering and analysis. I work closely with the Office of General Counsel whenever I encounter matters of law or policy.

- 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.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator.

- v. Whether you have held any judicial office, including positions as an administrative law judge, on any U.S. federal, state, tribal, or local court and if so, please provide the name of the court, the jurisdiction of that court, whether the position was appointed or elected, and the dates of your service.

I have not served as a Judge.

b. Describe:

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

Most of my litigation practice has been in Federal Court as an AUSA from 2019 to 2021, where I appeared in court frequently. Prior to my employment as an AUSA, my practice was military-law focused. As a

Judge Advocate, I litigated primarily in Administrative Separation Boards, where a board of Officers (sometimes a Military Judge) were convened to hear argument as to whether a servicemember, who has been recommended for separation from the military by their chain of command, should be separated or retained and, if separated, the characterization of the discharge. I was lead counsel for the government on the only two courts-martial that have been convened in the MSNG since the early 1990's, both defendants resigned in lieu of courts martial. Otherwise, my practice was general including employment law, legal assistance, contract review, advising commanders and soldiers in legal matters, and providing legal support to investigating officers. I also represented the MSNG in state court as necessary

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

From 2015 through 2018 I served full-time as Trial Counsel in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Joint Force Headquarters of the Mississippi National Guard (MSNG). My area of practice primarily focused on military law and work as general counsel to the Mississippi National Guard.

From 2018 through 2019 I was activated, mobilized, and deployed with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team in support of Operation Spartan Shield, where I served as Operations Law Attorney and Judge Advocate Forward.

From 2019 through 2021, I was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of Mississippi where I investigated and prosecuted a broad range of federal criminal cases, including violent crimes, public corruption, financial fraud, and drug trafficking.

From 2020 through 2021, I was activated by the MSNG and served as Lead Counsel of the MSNG COVID-19 Task Force.

Since 2021 to present, I have served as the Executive Director of the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security. While I am not actively practicing law in this role, I do advise my agents and analysts regarding our work, often this involves legal matters such as warrants, search and seizure, information gathering and analysis. I work closely with the Office of General Counsel whenever I encounter matters of law or policy.

From 2019 through 2024, I served part-time as Senior Defense Counsel, 972nd Trial Defense Services in the Mississippi National Guard.

In 2024, I was reassigned as the Brigade Judge Advocate, 155th Armored

Brigade Combat Team.

I have been a prosecutor, defense counsel, and acted as a general counsel throughout my legal career. Other than my time in Trial Defense (which was part time military duties), I have represented the Mississippi Army National Guard, the State of Mississippi, or the United States Government.

- 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.

Most of my litigation practice has been in Federal Court as an AUSA from 2019 to 2021, where I appeared in court frequently. Prior to my employment as an AUSA my practice was military-law focused. As a Judge Advocate, I litigated primarily in Administrative Separation Boards, where a board of Officers (sometimes a Military Judge) were convened to hear argument as to whether a servicemember, who has been recommended for separation from the military by their chain of command, should be separated or retained and, if separated, the characterization of the discharge. I was lead counsel for the government on the only two courts-martial that have been convened in the MSNG since the early 1990's, both defendants resigned in lieu of courts martial. Otherwise, my practice was general including employment law, legal assistance, contract review, advising commanders and soldiers in legal matters, and providing legal support to investigating officers. I also represented the MSNG in state court as necessary.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. federal courts: 98%
2. state courts of record: 1%
3. other courts: 1%
4. administrative agencies: 0%

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings: 5%
2. criminal proceedings: 95%

- 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.

- i. What percentage of these trials were:

1. Jury: 0%
2. non-jury: 0%

- e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) 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 not argued orally before the Supreme Court.

15. **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. Yolanda Ward

Case No. 3:21-cr-00087-CWR-LGI
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
District Judge Carlton W. Reeves
Magistrate Judge LaKeysha Greer Isaac
2021

I led the investigation and prosecution of Yolanda Ward on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi for Theft of Government Funds in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641. Ward stole over \$400,000 from the National Park Service over a period of years. Ward pled guilty and was sentenced to serve a 5-year term of probation and to make full restitution. According to investigators, this is believed to be the largest embezzlement case in the history of the Department of Interior.

Primary Co-Counsel:
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Kimberly Taft Purdie - AUSA
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Opposing Counsel:
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Michael L. Scott - FPD FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

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2. United States v. Benjamin Demond McAbee

Case No. 3:20-cr-00150-TSL-ASH
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
District Judge Tom S. Lee
Magistrate Judge F. Keith Ball
Magistrate Judge Andrew S. Harris
2020 - 2021

I was part of the team of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi that prosecuted Benjamin McAbee on behalf for Armed Career Criminal in Possession of a firearm in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). McAbee pled guilty and was sentenced to 180 months' imprisonment. McAbee had a significant criminal history having been previously convicted of manslaughter, aggravated assault, and sale of cocaine.

Primary Co-Counsel:
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3. United States v. Fredrick Harper

Case No. 3:21-cr-00127-KHJ-LGI-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
District Judge Kristi H. Johnson
Magistrate Judge LaKeysha Greer Isaac
2021

I led the prosecution of Frederick Harper on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi as an Armed Career Criminal in possession of a firearm, all in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Harper was on federal supervised release from multiple violent felonies at the time of the offense. He pled guilty and was sentenced to 188 months of imprisonment; 5 years supervised release; \$1,500 partial fine; \$100 special assessment.

Primary Co-Counsel:

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Opposing Counsel:

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4. United States v. Xavier Keshun Caldwell

Case No. 3:20-cr-00020-HTW-LGI-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
District Judge Henry T. Wingate
Magistrate Judge LaKeysha Greer Isaac
2020 - 2021

I led the investigation and prosecution of Xavier Caldwell on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi. Caldwell was indicted for carjacking and brandishing a firearm in commission of a crime of violence, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2119 and 924(c). Caldwell pled guilty and was sentenced to 92 months imprisonment to run consecutively to the undischarged term of imprisonment in Madison County Circuit Court Docket No. 2019-0511.

Primary Co-Counsel:

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5. United States v. Jessie Bullock

Case No. 3:18-cr-00165-CWR-ASH-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
District Judge Carlton W. Reeves
Magistrate Judge F. Keith Ball
Magistrate Judge Andrew S. Harris
2019 - 2021

I was part of the prosecution team of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi prosecuting Jessie Bullock for Felon in Possession of a firearm in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). This case resulted in a finding by U.S. District Judge Carlton W. Reeves that 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) is unconstitutional based on the United States Supreme Court opinion in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Associations v Bruen*, 142 S. Ct. 2111 (2022) and a dismissal of the case. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed and remanded for further proceedings. Bullock's petition for Writ of Certiorari is pending before the Supreme Court.

Primary Co-Counsel:
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Kimberly Taft Purdie - AUSA
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6. United States v. Jeremy Anderson

Case No. 3:21-cr-00051-DPJ-LGI-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
Chief District Judge Daniel P. Jordan, III
Magistrate Judge LaKeysha Greer Isaac
2021

I led this prosecution on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi. Jeremy Anderson entered a guilty plea to the unauthorized use of a stolen credit card to fraudulently obtain money and other things of value in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1029(a)(2) and 1029(b)(1). Anderson was sentenced to 24 months imprisonment to run consecutively to a revocation term in criminal case 3:17-cr-30. Anderson's supervised release was revoked in 3:17-cr-00030-DPJ-LGI, resulting in a sentence of an additional 10 months imprisonment, with 26 months supervised release. Mr. Anderson was violated the terms of his supervised release again in 2024 and was sentenced to 18 months in BOP and 6 months of supervised release to follow.

Primary Co-Counsel:

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Robert Thomas Rich
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Madison, MS 39110

7. United States v. Acarlos Oree Bowie, Jr.

Case No. 3:20-cr-00104-CWR-FKB-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
District Judge Carlton W. Reeves
Magistrate Judge F. Keith Ball
2020 - 2021

I led this prosecution on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi and secured a guilty plea of Mr. Bowie for Acquisition of a firearm while under indictment in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(n). He was sentenced to 5 years' probation; ordered to pay \$1,000.00 fine; Special Assessment \$100.

Primary Co-Counsel:

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Opposing Counsel:
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Charles Cassidy Cole
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8. United States v. Cortney Demond Buckley

Case No. 3:21-cr-00061-DPJ-LGI-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
Chief District Judge Daniel P. Jordan, III
Magistrate Judge LaKeysha Greer Isaac
2021

I led this prosecution on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi, including securing a search warrant for a drug stash house approximately one-half mile from the Mississippi State Capitol grounds. Cortney Buckley, an identified gang member, pled guilty to maintaining a drug involved premise; in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 856 and was sentenced to 84 months in prison.

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9. United States v. Jonathan Denzelle Crenshaw

Case No. 5:19-cr-00012-DCB-FKB-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
District Judge David C. Bramlette, III
Magistrate Judge F. Keith Ball
2019 - 2020

I led the prosecution of Jonathan Crenshaw on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi for Felon in Possession of a firearm; in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Crenshaw was sentenced to 78 months imprisonment and was revoked on prior sentences in Lincoln County,

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10. United States v. Snard et al.

Case No. 3:19-cr-00262-DPJ-FKB-1
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
Chief District Judge Daniel P. Jordan, III
Magistrate Judge F. Keith Ball
2019 - 2021

I was part of the team that prosecuted Timothy Snard and Geraldine Wesley on behalf of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi for Conspiracy and Introduction of Controlled Substances into a Federal Prison in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846 and 18 U.S.C. § 1791. Snard pled guilty and was sentenced to 27 months imprisonment BOP. Wesley pled guilty and was sentenced to serve 2 years on probation.

Primary Co-Counsel:
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Opposing Counsel:

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16. **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.)

From 2015 to 2018, I served as Trial Counsel in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Joint Force Headquarters MSNG. During my time at Joint Forces Headquarters I participated in a significant case filed against the Mississippi Military Department that ultimately was heard by the Mississippi Supreme Court: *King v. Miss. Military Dep't*, 245 So. 3d 404 (Miss. 2018). The plaintiff in the case was an employee of the Department and was terminated for cause, which she appealed to the Mississippi Employee Appeals Board. The Board dismissed it for lack of jurisdiction. She then appealed to Forrest County Circuit Court, which heard arguments and issued an opinion and judgment affirming the board. She then appealed to the Mississippi Supreme Court which affirmed the Circuit Court's ruling. This case ultimately ended the state-level *Chevron* deference doctrine.

From 2019 to 2021, I was an Assistant United States Attorney in the criminal division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi, where I investigated and prosecuted a broad range of federal criminal cases, including violent crimes, public corruption, financial fraud, and drug trafficking. I served as Team Lead for Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN). I coordinated attorneys, federal and local law enforcement, and community organizations to develop targeted strategies to reduce violent crime in the Jackson metro area.

Since 2021, I have served as the Executive Director of the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security and as Governor Reeves' Homeland Security Advisor. As the Executive Director of the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, I have led statewide efforts to safeguard communities against threats, coordinating initiatives that emphasize collaboration among local, state, and federal agencies. In this role, I have overseen the largest expansion of the Office's personnel and capabilities since its inception in 2004, including the creation of the Mississippi Cyber Unit. I lead a multidisciplinary team of

agents, analysts, and partners to combat organized crime networks, disrupt emerging threats and ensure the safety of the public.

In 2024, I was reassigned as the Brigade Judge Advocate, 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, for which I serve as legal advisor to the Brigade Commander and staff on matters related to operational law, military justice, and administrative law. I provide counsel on investigations, disciplinary actions, legal compliance, and risk management in support of operational and strategic goals. I provide real-time legal guidance during military operations, including deployment-related legal matters, the law of armed conflict, and rules of engagement. I conduct legal reviews of completed investigations to ensure compliance with military regulations and legal standards.

17. **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 four (4) copies to the committee.

I have not taught any courses.

18. **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.

I have a Federal TSP, non-vested Federal retirement from my previous service in the federal government, military TSP and non-vested military retirement from my service in the Army National Guard, and I have non-vested state retirement (PERS) from my current employment.

I have no other arrangements in the future to be compensated for any financial or business interest.

19. **Outside Commitments During 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.

I will continue my service in the Mississippi National Guard as a Judge Advocate Officer.

20. **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).

Please see my OGE-278 as provided by the Office of Government Ethics.

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

See attached Net Worth Statement.

22. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, affiliations, pending and categories of litigation, financial arrangements or other factors 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.

During the nomination process, I consulted with the Department of Justice's ethics office and Designated Ethics Officer to identify any potential conflicts. If I am confirmed, I will continue to consult with that office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

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

If I am confirmed, any potential conflict of interest will be resolved in accordance with the terms of an ethics agreement that I have entered with the Department's designated agency ethics official. If confirmed, I will continue to consult with the Department of Justice's ethics office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

23. **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. If you are not an attorney, please use this opportunity to report significant charitable and volunteer work you may have done.

[MC Law Veterans Legal Aid Clinic](#)

Mississippi College School of Law

Throughout my legal career, I have participated in the Veterans Legal Aid Clinic. We started the clinic in 2016 to help provide free legal support to Veterans and their family members in various areas. Typically, we focused on the basics: legal advice regarding landlord tenant issues, family law matters, VA disability claims, etc. Matters requiring representation are typically referred to attorneys who offer discounted or pro-bono rates for veterans.

AFFIDAVIT

I, James Edward Baxter Kruger, do swear that the information provided in this statement is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

8/8/2025

(DATE)

[Signature]

(NAME)



[Signature]

(NOTARY)