

UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

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

Vernon Dion Oliver

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

United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut

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.

Superior Court
Middlesex Judicial District
State of Connecticut
One Court Street
Middletown, CT 06457

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

1971; Bridgeport, Connecticut.

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.

1994 – 1997, University of Connecticut School of Law; J.D., 1997

1989 – 1994, University of Connecticut; B.A., 1994

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.

2009 – present
State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch, Superior Court
231 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut 06106
Middlesex Judicial District, Administrative Judge (2020 – present)
New Britain Judicial District, Assistant Administrative Judge (2018 – 2020)
Manchester Superior Court, Presiding Judge (2017 – 2018)
Tolland Judicial District, Habeas Corpus Matters, Criminal Matters (2014 – 2017)
Waterbury Superior Court, Criminal Docket (2013 – 2014)
Meriden Superior Court, Civil and Criminal jury trials (2012 – 2013)
Housing Sessions, Hartford and New Britain Judicial Districts (2010 – 2012)
Windham Judicial District (2009 – 2010)

2004 – 2009
State of Connecticut, Office of the Attorney General
MacKenzie Hall
110 Sherman Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06105
Assistant Attorney General

1999 – 2004
State of Connecticut, Division of Criminal Justice
300 Corporate Place
Rocky Hill, Connecticut, 06067
Assistant State's Attorney
Bristol Superior Court (2000 – 2004)
Office of the Chief State's Attorney (1999 – 2000)

1998 – 1999
Montstream & May, LLP (now defunct)
Associate, Insurance Defense

1997 – 1998
State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch
Hartford Judicial District
101 Lafayette Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06114
Temporary Assistant Clerk

1997
Kenneth B. Lerman, PC
651 Day Hill Road
Windsor, Connecticut 06095
Associate

Summer 1996
Cohen and Wolf, P.C.
1115 Broad Street
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

Summer Associate

Summer 1995

Neighborhood Legal Services (now defunct)
Summer Associate; Landlord-Tenant Law

Summer 1995

University of Connecticut School of Law
55 Elizabeth Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06105
Summer Employee; Professor Loftus Becker
Summer Employee; Gallivan Conference

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 military. I timely registered for the 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.

Connecticut Bar Association, Distinguished Volunteer (2004)

Moot Court Board, University of Connecticut School of Law (1995 – 1997)

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.

Committee on Judicial Ethics, Chair (2019 – present)

Connecticut Bar Association

Connecticut Bar Foundation, Fellow

Connecticut Hall of Change Selection Committee (2022 – present)

Connecticut Judges Institute: 2009, 2019, 2022: Criminal Law, Juvenile Law, Ethics

Connecticut Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, Board of Directors (2022 – present)

Connecticut Pre-Bench Orientation (2020 – present): Criminal Law, Habeas Corpus

Connecticut Sentencing Commission, Member (2020 – April 5, 2023)
Animal Cruelty Subcommittee, Chair (2020 – April 5, 2023)
Mental Health Subcommittee, Co-Chair (2020 – 2023)

Criminal Jury Instructions Committee (2023 – present)

George W. Crawford Black Bar Association

Judicial Branch Civics Academy

Judicial-Media Committee, Member (2018 – 2023)

Judicial Review Council, Member (2022 – present)

Middlesex County Bar Association

State Wiretap Panel, Chair (2020 – present)

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.

Connecticut, 1997

There have been no lapses in membership. As a Connecticut State Court judge, I am no longer considered a member of the bar.

- 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 District Court for the District of Connecticut, 1998

There have been no lapses in membership. As a Connecticut State Court judge, I am no longer considered a member of the bar.

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.

Friends of the Portland Library (2005 – present)

Portland Library Board (2008 – 2009)

- 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 four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

None.

- 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.

Based upon my recollection and a thorough review of my files and searches of publicly available databases, I have identified the following responsive materials, but it is possible that there are a few that I have been unable to recall or identify.

Connecticut Sentencing Commission: Mental Health Disorders in Connecticut's Incarcerated Population. (Jan. 2023). Copy supplied.

2019 – 2023: State of Connecticut Judicial Branch's Committee on Judicial Ethics, Annual Reports. Copies supplied.

- 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.

Based upon my recollection and a thorough review of my files and searches of publicly available databases, I have identified the following responsive materials, but it is possible that there are a few that I have been unable to recall or identify.

From November 2018 to February 2023, I participated in monthly (when there was business for that month) and special meetings of the Connecticut Committee on Judicial Ethics as a member and, from 2022 to 2023, as Acting Chair and Chair. Meeting minutes are supplied.

On February 09, 2023, I chaired a meeting for the Mental Health Subcommittee of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Meeting minutes supplied.

On January 3, 2023, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Meeting minutes supplied.

On November 16, 2022, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=21164>.

On September 14, 2022, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=21014>.

On April 4, 2022, I participated in a meeting of the Judicial-Media Committee in the Connecticut Judicial Branch as a member. Meeting minutes supplied.

On March 29, 2022, I testified before the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee at the Connecticut General Assembly regarding my nomination to the Judicial Review Council. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=19595>.

On January 19, 2022, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=19268>.

On November 17, 2021, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Meeting minutes supplied.

On September 27, 2021, I participated in a meeting of the Judicial-Media Committee in the Connecticut Judicial Branch. Meeting minutes supplied.

On September 15, 2021, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut

Sentencing Commission. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=13761>.

On April 19, 2021, I participated in a meeting of the Judicial-Media Committee in the Connecticut Judicial Branch. Meeting minutes supplied.

On March 24, 2021, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Meeting minutes supplied.

On January 20, 2021, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=12958>.

On December 16, 2020, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Meeting minutes supplied.

On September 16, 2020, I participated in a Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Video available at <https://www.ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=12561>.

On July 17, 2019, I made a presentation to the Habeas Corpus Matters Task Force of the Connecticut General Assembly. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=11439>.

On January 13, 2017, I testified before the Judiciary Committee at the Connecticut General Assembly regarding my re-nomination to be a judge on the Connecticut Superior Court. Video available at <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=8708>.

On February 23, 2009, I testified before the Judiciary Committee at the Connecticut General Assembly regarding my nomination to be a judge on the Connecticut Superior Court. Transcript supplied.

Since December 2020, I have served on the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. The mission of the Commission includes reviewing proposed criminal justice legislation. Its enactment statute states that the Commission shall review criminal justice legislation, as requested, and shall make legislative recommendations concerning criminal justice issues. The practice is for a member or members of the Connecticut General Assembly to first submit a request to the Commission to review a specific matter. Then, the Commission often forms a working group or subcommittee to research and review the matter and make proposals to the full Commission. Finally, the full Commission membership reviews and approves sending certain proposals to the relevant legislative or judicial committee for debate and consideration, and individual members may vote to advance the proposals, not to advance the proposal, or to abstain from voting. Below is a list of proposals that the Commission has made to the General Assembly during my

time of service:

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission Regarding Parole Eligibility for an Individual Serving a Lengthy Sentence for A Crime Committed Before the Individual Reached the Age of Twenty-One (Oct. 1, 2023). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission Providing Judicial Discretion for Certain Motor Vehicle Offenses with Mandatory Minimum Sentences (Oct. 1, 2023). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with Respect to Sexual Assault in the Fourth Degree (Oct. 1, 2023). Copy supplied.

Proposed Amendment to Connecticut Practice Book Section 38-8 concerning ten percent cash bail (Jan. 1, 2023). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission Regarding Appointment of an Advocate in a Criminal Proceeding Regarding the Welfare or Custody of an Animal (Jan. 1, 2023). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning Sentence Modification (Mar. 11, 2022). Copy supplied.

An Act Repealing Statutory Provisions that Impose Liability on an Individual for Repayment of Costs Incurred when the Individual was Incarcerated (Mar. 7, 2022). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning the Criminal Justice Process (Oct. 1, 2021). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning the Board of Pardons and Paroles, Erasure of Criminal Records for Certain Misdemeanor and Felony Offenses, Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Erased Criminal History Information and Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with Respect to Misdemeanor Sentences (July 1, 2021). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning Review of Animal Cruelty Laws by the Connecticut Sentencing Commission (Apr. 13, 2021). Copy supplied.

An Act Facilitating Voting by Persons Who Are Incarcerated in Connecticut Correctional Facilities and Restoring Voting Rights and Electoral Privileges for Persons who are Incarcerated for Felony Convictions (Dec. 16, 2020).

Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission Regarding the Enhanced Penalty for the Sale or Possession of Drugs Near Schools, Day Care Centers and Public Housing Projects (Oct. 1, 2020). Copy supplied.

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with Respect to the Sexual Offender Registry, Petitions to Terminate Parental Rights of Incarcerated Parents and Sentence Review and Sentence Modification (Apr. 29, 2019). Copy supplied.

- 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.

Based upon my recollection and a thorough review of my files and searches of publicly available databases, I have identified the following responsive materials, but it is possible that there are a few that I have been unable to recall or identify.

March 2, 2022: Virtual Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Brewster Elementary School, Regional School District 13, Durham, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

April 8, 2019: Panelist, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) roundtable discussion. I do not recall the location of the event or the sponsoring organization. I participated, on behalf of the Connecticut Judicial Branch, in a panel discussing the importance of the reauthorization of the federal Violence Against Women Act. I have no notes, transcript, or recording, but press coverage is supplied.

March 15, 2019: Presenter, Career Day, Park City Magnet School, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. I discussed paths to high school success, paths to college, my career path, goal setting, study skills and organizational skills. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Park City Magnet School is 1526 Chopsey Hill Road, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606.

March 2, 2019: Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day,

Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

March 2018 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

February 2018 (specific date unknown): Presenter, Park City Magnet School, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. I discussed paths to high school success, paths to college, my career path, goal setting, study skills and organizational skills. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Park City Magnet School is 1526 Chopsey Hill Road, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606.

March 2017 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

February 2017 (specific date unknown): Presenter, Park City Magnet School, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. I discussed paths to high school success, paths to college, my career path, study skills and organizational skills. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Park City Magnet School is 1526 Chopsey Hill Road, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606.

March 2016 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

February 2016 (specific date unknown): Presenter, Park City Magnet School, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. I discussed paths to high school success, paths to college, my career path, study skills and organizational skills. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Park City Magnet School is 1526 Chopsey Hill Road, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606.

May 29, 2015: Faculty, Youth Law Academy, Connecticut Bar Association Young Lawyers Section at Quinnipiac University School of Law, North Haven, Connecticut. I participated in small group discussions with high school students covering general legal concepts and potential careers in the law. I have no notes, transcript, or recording, but press coverage is supplied. The address for the

Connecticut Bar Association is 30 Bank Street, New Britain, Connecticut 06051.

March 2015 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

April 25, 2014: Presenter, Career Day, Park City Magnet School, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. I discussed paths to high school success, paths to college, my career path, study skills and organizational skills. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Park City Magnet School is 1526 Chopsey Hill Road, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606.

March 7, 2014: Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Park City Magnet School, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

March 1, 2013: Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Park City Magnet School, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

July 2, 2012: Speaker, Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Day Ceremony, Waterbury, Connecticut. As part of an annual ceremony sponsored by the Judicial Branch and local bar association, I spoke about that year's Law Day theme, *No Courts, No Justice, No Freedom*, selected by the American Bar Association. I have no notes, transcript, or recording, but press coverage is supplied. The address of the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

March 2012 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

March 2011 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial

Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

March 2010 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

March 2009 (specific date unknown): Reader, Connecticut Judicial Branch Read Across America Day, Connecticut. As part of an organized effort, Connecticut judges go into public elementary schools to read a Dr. Suess book to children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Connecticut Judicial Branch is 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

June 2007 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Dr. James H. Naylor School Commencement, I, along with several other speakers, addressed graduating eighth graders and their families, about their future success. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Dr. James H. Naylor School is 639 Franklin Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06114.

June 2005 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Noah Webster Microsociety Magnet School Commencement, Hartford Public Schools, Hartford, Connecticut. I, along with several other speakers, addressed graduating eighth graders and their families, about their future success. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Noah Webster Microsociety Magnet School is 5 Cone Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105.

January 2005 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Bar Association, Weaver High School Classroom Connection Speaker, Hartford Public Schools, Hartford, Connecticut. I discussed study skills and paths to college. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Weaver High School is 415 Granby Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06112.

April 2004 (specific date unknown): Advisor, Connecticut Bar Association, Fox Middle School Spring Advisor, Hartford Public Schools, Hartford, Connecticut. I mentored students on study habits and success in high school. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Michael D. Fox Middle School is 470 Maple Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06114.

March 2004 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Park City Magnet School Career Day, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. I discussed paths to college, law school, the legal profession, and my career path. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Park City Magnet School is 1526 Chopsey Hill Road, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606.

March 2004 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Bar Association, CT

Works public service speaker, State Government career center, New Britain, Connecticut. I discussed my career path and my career in public service. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of CT Works, New Britain is 260 Lafayette Street, New Britain, Connecticut 06053.

February 2004 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Bar Association, Weaver High School Law Practicum, Hartford Public Schools, Hartford, Connecticut. I discussed paths to college, law school, the legal profession, and my career path. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Weaver High School is 415 Granby Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06112

February 2004 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, University of Connecticut School of Law Black Law Students Association, Hartford, Connecticut, I discussed careers in criminal prosecution. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the University of Connecticut School of Law is 55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105.

February 2003 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, Public Interest Career Fair, University of Connecticut School of Law, Hartford, Connecticut. I discussed with law students potential careers within the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the University of Connecticut School of Law is 55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105.

April 2002 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Weaver High School Career Day, Hartford Public Schools, Hartford, Connecticut. I discussed paths to college, law school, the legal profession, and my career path. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Weaver High School is 415 Granby Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06112.

March 2002 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Bridgeport Central High School Career Day, Bridgeport Public Schools, Bridgeport, Connecticut. I discussed paths to college, law school, the legal profession, and my career path. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Bridgeport Central High School is 1 Lincoln Blvd., Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606.

February 2002 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, Public Interest Career Fair, University of Connecticut School of Law, Hartford, Connecticut. I discussed with law students potential careers within the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the University of Connecticut School of Law is 55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105.

February 2001 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, Public Interest Career Fair, University of Connecticut School of Law, Hartford, Connecticut. I discussed with law students potential careers within

the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the University of Connecticut School of Law is 55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105.

February 2000 (specific date unknown): Speaker, Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, Public Interest Career Fair, University of Connecticut School of Law, Hartford, Connecticut. I discussed with law students potential careers within the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the University of Connecticut School of Law is 55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105.

- 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.

Based upon my recollection and a thorough review of my files and searches of publicly available databases, I have identified the following responsive materials, but it is possible that there are a few that I have been unable to recall or identify.

To the best of my recollection, I spoke with a reporter for the Bristol Press in 2004 about moving from the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice to the Office of the Attorney General. I am unable to locate the resulting article.

Town News Briefing, HARTFORD COURANT (Apr. 5, 2003). Copy supplied.

Diane Struzzi, *New Prosecutor Gets His Start*, HARTFORD COURANT (Nov. 4, 2000). Copy supplied.

Cara Solomon, *Swindler Nearer to Freedom—Contractor Pays Way Out of Possible Prison Term*, HARTFORD COURANT (Sept. 13, 2000). Copy supplied.

JoAnne Viviano, *Officer Gets Special Probation*, NEW HAVEN REGISTER (Sept. 14, 1999). 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.

Since 2009, I have served as a Superior Court Judge on the Superior Court of Connecticut. I was nominated to this position by Governor M. Jodi Rell and, after having been confirmed by the General Assembly, I took the oath of office in March 2009. I was reappointed to a successive eight-year term 2017. The Superior Court of Connecticut is a court of general jurisdiction.

As a Superior Court Judge presently assigned as the Administrative Judge for the

Middlesex Judicial District, I am charged with the administrative tasks of overseeing the assignments of the several judges within the Judicial District and some degree of personnel and facilities oversight. Additionally, I am the primary criminal trial judge with additional responsibilities for presiding over other criminal, civil, juvenile, and housing matters as necessary.

Over the course of my several years on the bench, I have, in addition to the added administrative and supervisory responsibilities, had varying assignments presiding over criminal, civil, habeas corpus, and housing matters. I have also sat by designation in three matters at the Connecticut Appellate Court.

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

I have presided over approximately 300 bench trials, approximately 20 jury trials and dozens of evidentiary hearings. I have also presided over thousands of hearings in misdemeanor and felony matters, including hundreds of resolutions via pleas of guilty or no contest by the defendant.

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

Jury trials:	5%
bench trials:	95%

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

civil proceedings:	90%
criminal proceedings:	10%

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

See attached list of citations.

- 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. *State v. Myers*, No. MMX-CR18-0215306-T, 2022 WL 16570456 (Conn. Super. Ct. Oct. 19, 2022); 2022 WL 16571204 (Conn. Super. Ct. Oct. 21, 2022); 2022 WL 16570341 (Conn. Super. Ct. Oct. 21, 2022)

This case was a two-week jury trial on charges of murder and home invasion. Defendant Myers was charged with killing a 29-year-old Hartford special needs

teacher by stabbing her 19 times. The trial involved issues of domestic violence and coercive control. The evidence included DNA, electronic records, cell phone extractions, and claims of illegal interrogation. I was required to rule on several pre-trial motions and motions in limine, most significantly on the authenticity requirements and admissibility of printed versions of social media posts attributed to the defendant, and held evidentiary hearings as well before the case proceeded to trial. In November 2022 Myers was convicted by a jury and in January 2023 I sentenced him to 57 years in state prison. The matter is now on appeal.

Counsel for the State

Michael Gailor
Middlesex State's Attorney's Office
Middlesex Judicial District
One Court Street
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 343-6425

Counsel for the Defense

William Paetzold
Moriarty, Paetzold & Sherwood
2230 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033
(860) 657-1010

Angela Anastasi
Office of the Public Defender
Middlesex Judicial District
One Court Street
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 343-6480

2. *State v. Kosuda-Bigazzi*, No. HHBCR180068925T, 2018 WL 4655590 (Conn. Super. Ct. Sept. 12, 2018); 2019 WL 4513807 (Conn. Super. Ct. Aug. 16, 2019), *aff'd*, 335 Conn. 327 (2020)

The defendant, charged with murder in a domestic violence context, claimed that police seized and read documents protected by attorney-client privilege, irreparably damaging her ability to present a defense. I presided over an evidentiary hearing to determine whether there were privilege violations, what, if any, prejudice the defendant suffered from the violations, and fashion a remedy, pursuant to *State v. Lenarz*, 301 Conn. 417 (2011), *cert. denied*, 565 U.S. 1156 (2012). I found that although there were violations of attorney-client privilege, dismissal was not necessary under the circumstances. Instead, I ruled, *inter alia*, that the removal from the case of the prosecution team and specific law enforcement agencies, as well as a transfer of jurisdiction, was sufficient to address any prejudice suffered by the defendant. I was then affirmed on appeal.

The matter is pending before a new judge in the Hartford Judicial District criminal court.

Counsel for the State

Christian M. Watson
Office of the State's Attorney
New Britain Judicial District
Superior Court
20 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 515-5270

Counsel for the Defense

Patrick Tomasiewicz
Fazzano & Tomasiewicz
96 Oak Street
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 231-7766

3. *Budziszewski v. Warden*, No. CV134005604, 2018 WL 3015205 (Conn. Super. Ct. May 21, 2018), *aff'd*, 199 Conn. App. 518 (2020), *cert. denied*, 335 Conn. 965 (2020)

On remand from the Connecticut Supreme Court for a new trial on the issue of the proper advice to be given by counsel to criminal defendants who may be subject to mandatory deportation, as required by *Padilla v. Kentucky*, 559 U.S. 356 (2010). I found, after trial, that defense counsel's advice was not constitutionally deficient because he properly explained to the petitioner that he would unquestionably be subject to deportation, even if it might take some time for immigration authorities to locate him. This judgement was affirmed by the Court of Appeals; certification was denied by the Connecticut Supreme Court.

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4. *Greene v. Commissioner of Correction*, No. CV134005678S, 2016 WL 4007537 (Conn. Super. Ct. June 20, 2016), *aff'd*, 330 Conn. 1 (2018), *cert. denied sub nom. Greene v. Semple*, 139 S. Ct. 1219 (2019)

Petitioner Greene's habeas petition claimed that the state violated his due process rights during his criminal trial by failing to correct false testimony given by an accomplice and cooperating witness and by failing to disclose evidence favorable to him, pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland*. Specifically, Greene claimed that the cooperating witness falsely claimed during the criminal trial that the witness had not negotiated a lower sentence with prosecutors in exchange for his testimony. I presided over a bench trial on the claims. I determined that the prosecutor properly disclosed to the defense that the witness would testify against Greene, satisfying *Brady*, and that the witness's statements at trial were not false or misleading. The Connecticut Supreme Court agreed with me that the witness's statements at trial were "not substantially misleading" and the prosecutor had no duty to correct them.

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5. *State v. Smith*, 179 Conn. App. 734 (2018), *cert. denied*, 328 Conn. 927 (2018)

The defendant was charged with witness tampering and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Following a six-day jury trial, the defendant was convicted on both counts. I imposed a total effective sentence of 15 years of incarceration, with execution suspended after seven years to serve, followed by five years of probation. The defendant then appealed, arguing that I erred in admitting certain copies of electronic evidence relating to the witness tampering charge. I was affirmed on appeal. The defendant's subsequent habeas corpus requests for relief were denied.

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6. *TA Operating, LLC v. Geddes et al.*, X06UWYCV 094020994-S, 2013 WL 7760846 (Conn. Super. Ct. Nov. 4, 2013)

This case required me to determine whether the terms of a proposed settlement agreement were clear, unambiguous, and not in dispute between the parties, such that I could enforce the proposed agreement pursuant to the plaintiff's motion. In this civil action brought by the Chapter 7 bankruptcy Trustee for the plaintiff corporate entity, the plaintiff sought to enforce a supposed settlement agreement between the plaintiff and the several defendants in this matter. The plaintiff asserted that during the course of judicial mediation, a clear and unambiguous agreement to resolve the instant litigation was reached between the parties, subject to Bankruptcy Court approval. After an evidentiary hearing, I found that the precise terms of the agreement were not clear and unambiguous in that there existed ambiguity as to the disposition of the bankruptcy petition of one of the named defendants, pursuant to *Audubon Parking Association Limited Partnership v. Barclay and Stubbs, Inc.*, 225 Conn. 804 (1993). Accordingly, there was no agreement to enforce. There was no appeal, and the parties later settled.

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7. *State v. Vaught*, No. H15NCR11266931T, 2013 WL 1715703 (Conn. Super. Ct. Apr. 2, 2013), *aff'd*, 157 Conn. App. 101 (2015)

The defendant in this case was charged with attempt to possess one kilogram or more of a cannabis-type substance with intent to sell by a person who is not drug-dependent, and criminal possession of a revolver. In ruling on the defendant's motion to suppress physical evidence – drugs and a firearm – discovered after a warrantless search of his residence, I was required to analyze the exclusionary rule and its exceptions under *Mapp v. Ohio*, and under the Connecticut Constitution. I found that the defendant consented to the search of the entire premises. I also evaluated the anticipated trial evidence and potential prejudice to the defendant in granting the prosecution's motion to join the drug and firearm matters for trial. After a jury trial, over which I presided, the defendant was convicted on both charges, and I sentenced him to eight years of incarceration, followed by five years of special parole. On appeal, the Appellate Court affirmed my rulings.

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8. *Chung v. Belton et al.*, No. CVH-8221, 2012 WL 3206455 (Conn. Super. Ct. July 31, 2012)

This was a landlord-tenant action alleging violations of the Connecticut Entry and Detainer statute as well as the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act. At a bench trial over which I presided, the tenant asserted that she was illegally removed from her rented premises by her landlord and that her personal property was improperly discarded and lost to her. Further, as a result of having been illegally made homeless, the evidence established that the plaintiff had faced an attempted sexual assault. After trial, I found in favor of the plaintiff and awarded economic damages and attorney's fees. There was no appeal.

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9. *Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities ex. rel. Palmer v. Burkamp*,

The matter involved a claim of housing discrimination brought by the CHRO on behalf of the relator against her would-be landlord. After a bench trial, I found that the plaintiff established that the defendant violated state law by refusing to rent to the relator based on her intended use of a State Security Deposit Guarantee for the required security deposit. After finding in the plaintiff's favor, I ordered non-economic damages, a civil penalty, and attorney's fees. There was no appeal.

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10. *Bloomfield Early Learning Center v. Town of Bloomfield, Connecticut*, No. HHDCV124060677S, 2011 WL 6945301 (Conn. Super. Ct. Nov. 25, 2011)

The plaintiff daycare center filed a complaint alleging violation of the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act, and breach of contract after having been "locked out" of their commercial premises by the defendant town. It sought, among other relief, a mandatory temporary injunction directing the town to make repairs sufficient to return the premises to a condition suitable for occupancy as a child early learning center. Based on the evidence adduced at the motion hearing, I was persuaded that the plaintiff was likely to succeed on the merits of its claim that the defendant violated the provisions of the operative lease agreement relating to the maintenance and repair of the subject premises. I also found that the plaintiff demonstrated the potential for irreparable harm in the absence of the requested injunctive relief. I found further that the plaintiff proved that an action for monetary damages was an inadequate remedy at law, both for the plaintiff and for the low- and moderate-income children and families who had been educationally, socially, and financially displaced as a result of the continued dispossession. Finally, in balancing the equities between the parties, I found that the expenditure of certain sums for permanent or temporary heating systems were not overly burdensome on the defendant when compared to the potential losses to the plaintiff and the losses to the clients served by the plaintiff. I therefore ruled for the plaintiff, and issued several orders relating to commercial premises, alternative premises, and compliance with applicable health, fire and building

codes. An appeal was initially filed but later withdrawn.

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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. *State v. Ferreira*, No. MMX-CR20-0241028-T, 2023 WL 2204022 (Conn. Super. Ct. Jan. 20, 2023)

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2. *Rose v. DMHAS et al.*, No. MMC-CV19-5011772-S, 2022 WL 17443393
(Conn. Super. Ct. Dec. 1, 2022)

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3. *State v. Myers*, No. MMX-CR18-0215306-T, 2022 WL 16571204 (Conn.
Super. Ct. Oct. 21, 2022)

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4. *Delgado v. Commissioner of Correction*, No. CV 13-4005557-S, 2022 WL 4234061 (Conn. Super. Ct. Sept. 14, 2022)

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5. *Stephenson v. Warden*, No. TSR-CV13-4005730-S, 2022 WL 1223985 (Conn. Super. Ct. Apr. 26, 2022)

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6. *Seramonte Associates, LLC v. Town of Hamden*, 202 Conn. App. 467 (2021), *aff'd*, 345 Conn. 76 (2022)

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7. *State v. Kosuda-Bigazzi*, No. HHBCR180068925T, 2019 WL 4513807 (Conn. Super. Ct. Aug. 16, 2019), *aff'd*, 335 Conn. 327 (2020)

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8. *State v. Pagan*, No. HHB-CR17-0287620-T, 2019 WL 2246570 (Conn. Super. Ct. Mar. 29, 2019)

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9. *State v. Glowicki*, No. HHB-CR18-0292448-T, H15N-CR17-0287074-S, 2019 WL 1504009 (Conn. Super. Ct. Feb. 22, 2019)

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10. *Carabetta Management Co. v. Sealy*, No. HDSP-160135, 2011 WL 6945247
(Conn. Super. Ct. Nov. 8, 2011)

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

Greene v. Commissioner of Correction, No. CV134005678S, 2016 WL 4007537
(Conn. Super. Ct. June 20, 2016), *aff'd*, 330 Conn. 1 (2018), *cert. denied sub nom.*
Greene v. Semple, 139 S. Ct. 1219 (2019)

Shipman v. Warden, No. CV124004631S, 2015 WL 9897700 (Conn. Super. Ct.
Dec. 14, 2015), *aff'd sub nom. Shipman v. Comm'r of Correction*, 172 Conn.
App. 600 (2017), *cert. denied*, 326 Conn. 908 (2017), *cert. denied sub nom.*
Shipman v. Semple, 138 S. Ct. 405 (2017)

Robinson v. Warden, No. CV134005253, 2015 WL 4430558 (Conn. Super. Ct. June 17, 2015), *aff'd sub nom. Robinson v. Comm'r of Correction*, 169 Conn. App. 907 (2016), *cert. denied sub nom. Robinson v. Semple*, 137 S. Ct. 2235 (2017)

- 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.

State v. Patrick M., HHB CR170287470T (Conn. Super. Ct. Sept. 2, 2022), *rev'd and remanded*, 344 Conn. 565 (2022). The defendant was convicted by the jury of murder and weapons charges in connection with the death of his wife in 2017. In 2019, I sentenced the defendant to 55 years in prison and he appealed, arguing he was denied his right to a fair trial because of statements the prosecutor made during closing arguments. The Connecticut Supreme Court reversed the murder conviction in September 2022 and remanded for a new trial, finding that, while the evidence was sufficient to establish the defendant's conviction, the prosecutor's statements that the defendant's in-court testimony was the "first time" the defendant told an exculpatory version of events was "fundamentally unfair" in violation of the defendant's right to due process. The Court also found that the error was not harmless. The matter remains pending in the Superior Court after remand.

State v. Juan J., No. HHB-CR170286740-T (Conn. Super. Ct. 2019), *rev'd and remanded*, 344 Conn. 1 (2022). After jury trial and conviction on sexual assault charges, the defendant appealed. At trial, the prosecution offered evidence of previous sexual assaults by the defendant against the same victim as uncharged misconduct on the issue of intent. The Connecticut Supreme Court found that uncharged prior misconduct against the minor victim was not relevant to show intent, and thus was inadmissible on the issue of intent as the defense theory was one of general denial. They also found that the erroneous admission of evidence of uncharged prior misconduct against minor victim was not harmless. The case was reversed and remanded for a new trial, and it remains pending in the Superior Court.

McCarthy v. Commissioner of Correction, No. CV134005222S, 2017 WL 5014900 (Conn. Super. Ct. Sept. 12, 2017), *aff'd in part, rev'd in part*, 192 Conn. App. 797 (2019). In this habeas corpus litigation, the petitioner challenged his underlying conviction for murder, claiming that ineffective assistance of his initial counsel led him to reject a plea offer from the state after being misled regarding the strength of the state's case against him because that counsel had fabricated affidavits from certain eyewitnesses to the underlying crime. At the habeas trial over which I presided, I found that the petitioner's initial counsel, who filed a limited "bond purposes only" appearance for the petitioner, took actions outside

of the scope of his limited appearance and was not to be considered trial counsel. I found further that, as “bond counsel” did not represent the petitioner during plea negotiations or at trial, he was not functioning as “counsel” within the meaning of the Sixth Amendment at the time of the plea offer or at trial. The Appellate Court of Connecticut affirmed me in part and reversed in part, finding that, when denying the habeas corpus petition, I applied an unduly narrow view of the scope and duration of the attorney-client relationship when I found that counsel’s actions during his brief period of representing the petitioner in his underlying criminal matter was insufficient to constitute deficient performance and to prejudice petitioner. The matter was remanded to the habeas court for a new trial to determine whether previous counsel was representing petitioner, within the meaning of the Sixth Amendment, when he fabricated certain witness affidavits. On remand before another judge, the habeas petition was granted. *McCarthy v. Warden*, No. CV134005222S, 2021 WL 3409811 (Conn. Super. Ct. June 30, 2021).

Kelsey v. Commissioner of Correction, No. CV174008700 (Conn. Super. Ct. May 15, 2017), *rev’d and remanded*, 329 Conn. 711 (2018). The Connecticut Supreme Court, in a certified public interest appeal interpreting certain “habeas reform” statutes, found that the pleadings need not have been closed before the habeas court can take action on the respondent’s motion for an order for the petitioner to show cause why an untimely-filed habeas petition should not be dismissed. The court’s interpretation of the relevant section of the statute found that the ability to conduct the hearing prior to the close of pleadings was within my discretion. My decision to the contrary was reversed and the case was remanded for further proceedings, including the adjudication of the respondent’s “show cause” motion. Copy supplied. On remand before a different judge, the habeas petition was dismissed. 2019 WL 1766069 (Conn. Super. Ct. Mar. 20, 2019), *aff’d*, 202 Conn. App. 21 (2020), *aff’d*, 343 Conn. 424 (2022).

Boria v. Commissioner of Correction, No. TSR-CV16-4008315-S (Conn. Super. Ct. Sept. 17, 2016), *aff’d*, 186 Conn. App. 332 (2018), *rev’d and remanded*, 345 Conn. 39 (2022). Upon preliminary consideration of a newly-filed habeas corpus writ, I dismissed the petition for lack of subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Connecticut Rules of Court. Copy supplied. The Connecticut Supreme Court, in clarifying the distinction between two similar sections of the Rules of Court, found that I should have declined to issue the writ for lack of subject matter jurisdiction following its preliminary consideration of the petition, rather than dismissing it on the same basis, without notice. The judgment of the Appellate Court was reversed and that court was directed to reverse my judgment and to remand the case to the habeas court for further proceedings to determine whether it was appropriate to decline to issue the writ. This matter was handled on remand by another judge, pursuant to the Rules of Court.

Gilchrist v. Commissioner of Correction, No. TSRCV164008219S (Conn. Super. Ct. July 28, 2016), *aff’d*, 180 Conn. App. 56 (2018), *rev’d and remanded*, 334

Conn. 548 (2020). Upon preliminary consideration of a newly-filed habeas corpus writ, I dismissed the petition for lack of subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Connecticut Rules of Court. Copy supplied. The Connecticut Supreme Court, in clarifying the distinction between two similar sections of the Rules of Court, found that I should have declined to issue the writ for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, rather than dismissing it on the same basis, without notice. Accordingly, on remand I declined to issue the writ.

Edwards v. Warden, No. CV134005574S, 2016 WL 4253398 (Conn. Super. Ct. July 13, 2016), *rev'd and remanded sub nom. Edwards v. Comm'r of Correction*, 183 Conn. App. 838 (2018). In this case, the defendant, having been convicted of first-degree assault at his underlying trial, claimed, among other things, that his counsel was ineffective at trial in failing to subject the state's case against him to any meaningful adversarial testing through proper cross-examination of the state's witnesses. I found that counsel's strategic decision on cross-examination and at closing arguments was sufficiently competent such that the petitioner failed to overcome the presumption of competency. The Appellate Court found that counsel's actions constituted per se prejudice under *United States v. Chronic*, 466 U.S. 648 (1984). The judgment was reversed and the case was remanded with direction to grant the habeas petition, to vacate the petitioner's conviction of assault in the first degree and the revocation of his probation, and to order a new trial.

Gomez v. Warden, No. CV134005558S, 2016 WL 3202693 (Conn. Super. Ct. May 23, 2016), *aff'd sub nom. Gomez v. Comm'r of Correction*, 178 Conn. App. 519 (2017), *rev'd and remanded*, 336 Conn. 168 (2020). The Supreme Court of Connecticut, having granted certification from the affirmance of the Appellate Court, found I erred in finding that the prosecuting authority's disclosure of a witness's cooperation agreements to defense counsel, without more, satisfied the prosecutor's obligation to correct false testimony and vindicated the defendant's due process rights when prosecution witnesses were untruthful in their characterization of their lack of self-interested motive to testify against the defendant. The Supreme Court reversed and remanded with instructions to grant the habeas petition, vacate the petitioner's underlying convictions, and order a new trial. On August 4, 2020, I entered judgment and orders consistent with the remand order.

Bell v. Commissioner of Correction, No. CV124004791S, 2015 WL 5315427 (Conn. Super. Ct. Aug. 12, 2015), *rev'd and remanded*, 184 Conn. App. 150 (2018), *aff'd*, 339 Conn. 79 (2021). Bell was convicted by a jury of two counts of robbery, burglary, larceny, and kidnapping, and received an effective sentence of 36 years in prison. Bell filed a petition for habeas corpus, claiming that he was denied due process because jury instructions on the kidnapping charge failed to require finding that restraint of victims was not merely incidental to another crime. I denied the petition, finding that the failure of the trial judge to give a nonincidental movement instruction to the jury as to the kidnapping charge was

harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. The Appellate Court reversed and found the instructional error was not harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. The judgment was reversed and the case was remanded with direction to enter judgment granting the habeas petition, vacating the petitioner's kidnapping convictions, and ordering a new trial on those offenses. The Connecticut Supreme Court affirmed.

James v. Warden, No. CV114004013, 2015 WL 4880187 (Conn. Super. Ct. Jul. 14, 2015), *rev'd in part and remanded sub nom. James v. Comm'r of Correction*, 327 Conn. 24 (2017). The petitioner asserted, inter alia, that the respondent had incorrectly calculated his total effective sentence and his jail credit, resulting in a loss of 1,624 days of jail credit. I credited the testimony of the respondent's Records Specialist and found her testimony as to the calculation and application of jail credit overwhelmingly persuasive. The Connecticut Supreme Court found, in an issue of first impression, that calculation of presentence confinement credit should be adjusted for concurrent sentences imposed under one docket number but on different dates.

Wilcox v. Commissioner of Correction, No. CV114004205S, 2014 WL 5356250 (Conn. Super. Ct. Sept. 17, 2014), *rev'd and remanded sub nom. Wilcox v. Comm'r of Correction*, 162 Conn. App. 730 (2016). In this habeas trial over which I presided, the petitioner, serving a sentence after conviction on several charges, including kidnapping, asserted that there was instructional error to the jury at the underlying criminal trial and that the error was not harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. I agreed with the petitioner's claim, finding that the petitioner was entitled to a new trial on the kidnapping charge due to the trial court's failure to properly instruct the jury pursuant to current case law, that if it found that the restraint of the victim was merely incidental to the defendant's commission of the assault, it could not find him guilty of kidnapping. The Appellate Court found that I erred in so finding and held that the petitioner had failed to establish actual prejudice resulting from the trial court's kidnapping instruction. The judgment was reversed and the case remanded with directions to dismiss the habeas petition.

Mukon v. Gollnick, No. CV116003894S, 2013 WL 951328 (Conn. Super. Ct. Feb. 15, 2013), *rev'd and remanded*, 151 Conn. App. 126 (2014). At the court trial in which the plaintiff alleged malpractice against the defendant accountant, I credited the testimony of the plaintiff's expert and the other evidence adduced at trial, found for the plaintiff, and ordered economic damages. The Appellate Court reversed, finding that I failed to apply certain Connecticut General Statutes and improperly found that the dissolution of the corporate entity, rather than the plaintiff's failure to conform to statutory requirements, triggered the taxable event I attributed to the malpractice of the accountant. The judgment was reversed, and the case remanded with directions to render judgment in favor of the defendant.

State v. Ayala, No. CR12-267745 (Conn. Super. Ct. Jan. 22, 2013), *rev'd and remanded*, 154 Conn. App. 631 (2015), *aff'd*, 324 Conn. 571 (2017). In this case,

the defendant was convicted of three counts of interfering with a police officer in a jury trial over which I presided. After the close of evidence, the prosecuting authority sought to file an amended long form information modifying the location of one of the alleged interfering charges. I allowed the amendment, finding that the petitioner was not subject to unfair surprise. The Appeals Court of Connecticut reversed the conviction, finding that the state failed to demonstrate good cause to permit the amended information and that I failed to make the requisite finding of good cause. The Connecticut Supreme Court affirmed. On remand, the defendant entered a *nolo contendere* plea to interfering with the police and was sentenced to an unconditional discharge.

Centrix Management Co. v. Valencia, No. NBSP-054299145, 2012 WL 2202352 (Conn. Super. Ct. May 24, 2012), *aff'd in part, rev'd in part*, and remanded, 145 Conn. App. 682 (2013). After a summary process bench trial over which I presided, I ruled for the defendant-tenant. As the prevailing party, I found the defendant entitled to attorney's fees. There had also been pending a "payment into court" action between these same parties, where the defendant alleged certain housing code violations absolved her from her rental obligations. That matter was resolved in favor of the plaintiff-landlord. I ordered some of the funds paid into court by the plaintiff to satisfy my previous order awarding the plaintiff attorney's fees. The Appellate Court affirmed as to the granting of the defendants' motion for attorney's fees, but reversed as to the distribution of the use and occupancy payments to the defendants for attorney's fees, finding that I erred in the manner in which I ordered distribution of use and occupancy payments. The monies held by the clerk of the court were properly directed to offset the tenant's rental obligation and not to attorney's fees for the tenant.

State v. Polanco, No. CR080135107S (Conn. Super. Ct. Aug. 14, 2009), *aff'd in part, rev'd in part, and remanded*, 126 Conn. App. 323 (2011), *aff'd in part, rev'd in part*, 308 Conn. 242 (2013). After defendant was convicted on drug charges in a jury trial over which I presided, the Connecticut Supreme Court, in remanding the matter with direction to vacate one of the convictions, adopted a new standard of vacatur versus merger for certain criminal convictions at trial. The Supreme Court held that when a defendant has been convicted of greater and lesser included offenses, the trial court must vacate the conviction for the lesser offense rather than merging the convictions, and vacated the sentence for the lesser included offense. It also held that a defendant's conviction for a lesser included offense that was previously vacated as violative of double jeopardy may be reinstated if his conviction for the greater offense subsequently is reversed for reasons not related to the viability of the vacated conviction. On remand, the conviction in question was vacated, but the defendant's total effective sentence of 10 years incarceration, five of which were mandatory, followed by 10 years special parole, was unchanged.

- 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.

I have issued thousands of orders, opinions, decisions, and memorandum orders during my time on the bench. Approximately 1000 rulings involved substantive factual or legal analysis. Of these rulings, approximately 25 percent are available on Lexis and/or Westlaw, and the remaining 75 percent are unpublished and are stored and maintained electronically within the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch electronic case management system.

- 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.

Seramonte Associates, LLC v. Town of Hamden, CV166065237S, 2019 WL 1313254 (Conn. Super. Ct. Feb. 5, 2019), 202 Conn. App. 467 (2021) (sitting by designation), *aff'd*, 345 Conn. 76 (2022)

Stephenson v. Warden, CV13-4005730-S, 2022 WL 1223985 (Conn. Super. Ct. May 16, 2022)

Little v. Warden, No. CV205000641-S, 2020 WL 8265397 (Conn. Super. Ct. Dec. 14, 2020)

Hurdle v. Commissioner of Correction, No. CV205000647-S, 2020 WL 5540600 (Conn. Super. Ct. Aug. 17, 2020)

Rivera v. Commissioner, No. TSRCV205000561S, 2020 WL 3790741 (Conn. Super. Ct. June 8, 2020).

Greene v. Commissioner of Correction, No. CV134005678S, 2016 WL 4007537 (Conn. Super. Ct. June 20, 2016), *aff'd*, 330 Conn. 1 (2018), *cert. denied sub nom. Greene v. Semple*, 139 S. Ct. 1219 (2019)

State v. Pagan, No. HHB-CR17-0287620-T, 2019 WL 2246570 (Conn. Super. Ct. Mar. 29, 2019)

Jamison v. Warden, No. CV124004692, 2014 WL 3587496 (Conn. Super. Ct. June 9, 2014), *aff'd sub nom. Jamison v. Comm'r of Correction*, 167 Conn. App. 312 (2016)

Betancourt v. Warden, No. CV12-4004762-S, 2016 WL 490285 (Conn. Super. Ct. Jan. 12, 2016)

State v. Vaught, No. H15NCR11266931T, 2013 WL 1715703 (Conn. Super. Ct. Apr. 2, 2013), *aff'd*, 157 Conn. App. 101 (2015)

Pires v. Warden, No. TSRCV074001591, 2015 WL 544656 (Conn. Super. Ct. Jan. 16, 2015)

- 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.

I have not sat by designation on any federal court of appeals.

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.

Connecticut Practice Book Section 1-22 requires the judicial authority to recuse, upon its own motion or upon motion of either party, if the court previously tried the same matter and a new trial is ordered or the matter was reversed on appeal.

Rule 2.11 of the Connecticut Code of Judicial Conduct, which governs State Court judges, also requires disqualification in any matter in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned.

In my service as a Superior Court judge, I have never, to the best of my recollection, been asked to recuse myself for cause pursuant to Section 1-22. I have, however, recused myself sua sponte on three occasions.

I recused myself from one habeas matter based on a previous close, personal relationship with a witness. I recused myself in two other instances based upon the filing of Judicial Review Council complaints against me by the litigants. These three sua sponte recusals were based on the appearance of impropriety standard due to a potential perceived conflict of interest.

As all Judicial Review Council complaints filed against me were dismissed as lacking a factual basis, I am unable to recall which matters were the subject of recusal. As evidence had not opened on any of these three matters, no written decision regarding recusal was made as the matter was simply transferred to another judge. After review of my notes, computerized records and searching my own recollection, I am unable to identify the names or docket numbers of these cases.

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.

From 2008 to 2009, I was a member of the Board of the Portland, Connecticut Public Library appointed by First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield. I was required to resign from this appointed office after I was confirmed as a Superior Court judge pursuant to the Code of Judicial Conduct.

- 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.

To the best of my recollection, my only involvement in any campaign was volunteering very briefly to distribute leaflets for Biagio "Billy" Smith's campaign for Connecticut State Representative, District 37 in approximately 2008.

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;

I have never served as a clerk to a judge.

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

I have never 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;

1997
Law Office of Kenneth B. Lerman, PC
651 Day Hill Road
Windsor, Connecticut 06095
Associate

1997 – 1998
State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch
Hartford Judicial District
Temporary Assistant Clerk

1998 – 1999
Monstream & May, LLP (now defunct)
Associate

1999 – 2004
State of Connecticut, Division of Criminal Justice
300 Corporate Place
Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067
Assistant State's Attorney

2004 – 2009
State of Connecticut, Office of the Attorney General
110 Sherman Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06105
Assistant Attorney General

- 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 never served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative resolution proceedings.

b. Describe:

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

The nature of my law practice prior to becoming a judge varied widely over the years. After graduating from law school in 1997, I worked briefly for a local solo practitioner reviewing contracts and incorporating small

businesses.

From 1997 to 1998, I was employed as a Temporary Assistant Clerk in the Hartford Judicial District where I maintained the courts files, including filings and trial exhibits. I also assisted the judges in the courtroom during jury selection and criminal jury trials.

From 1998 to 1999, I was an associate at Monstream & May, LLP, a small insurance and worker's compensation defense firm. While there, I conducted research and drafted pleadings, motions, and memoranda for review by supervising attorneys, took part in depositions, and argued motions in courts across the state.

From 1999 to 2004, I was employed by the State of Connecticut, Division of Criminal Justice as an Assistant State's Attorney. In that role, I prosecuted felony, misdemeanor, and motor vehicle matters. In addition to my daily criminal docket, I represented the people of the State of Connecticut in approximately 22 criminal jury trials, dozens of evidentiary hearings, and countless daily bail hearings, motion hearings and other dispositive hearings.

From 2004 to 2009, I was employed with the State of Connecticut, Office of the Attorney General as an Assistant Attorney General in the Child Protection Unit. In this role, I represented the Connecticut Department of Children and Families in child abuse, neglect, and termination of parental rights matters in bench trials, administrative hearings, and in one appellate matter. At the Statewide Child Protection Session in Middletown, Connecticut, I handled some of the state's most complex and serious child protection matters.

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

As a Temporary Assistant Clerk, I worked for the Connecticut Judicial Branch.

At the Law Office of Kenneth Lerman PC, I represented individual parties to a contract and those seeking to incorporate.

As an associate at Montstream & May, LLP, from 1998 to 1999, I represented business entities in food-borne illness and "slip and fall" personal injury cases in civil litigation in Connecticut state courts.

As an assistant state's attorney from 1999 to 2004, I represented the interests of the people of the State of Connecticut in criminal matters,

ranging from felonies and misdemeanors to motor vehicle violations.

As an attorney at the Office of the Attorney General from 2004 to 2009, my client was the Connecticut Department of Children and Families. I represented their mission to protect the best interest of children in abuse, neglect, and termination of parental rights matters.

- 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.

I was a litigator for the entirety of my career in legal practice. From 1999 to 2004 as an Assistant State's Attorney, I was in court daily, handling felony and criminal matters. From 2004 to 2009, as an Assistant Attorney General in the Child Protection Unit, I was assigned to the Statewide Child Protection Session, where I was in court several days per week trying cases.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| 1. federal courts: | 0% |
| 2. state courts of record: | 100% |
| 3. other courts: | 0% |
| 4. administrative agencies: | 0% |

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. civil proceedings: | 55% |
| 2. criminal proceedings: | 45% |

- 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.

As an Assistant State's Attorney, I tried 20 criminal jury matters to verdict as sole counsel and two criminal jury matters as co-counsel. I also tried many violation of probation matters and represented the state in arraignments, bond hearings, and other criminal matters.

As an Assistant Attorney General, I tried as sole counsel several dozen termination of parental rights, abuse, neglect, and order of temporary custody matters to the court. I also appeared once before the Connecticut Appellate Court.

- i. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | |
|--------------|-----|
| 1. jury: | 25% |
| 2. non-jury: | 75% |

- 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 did not practice 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. *In re Stephen M.*, Nos. W10CP02014057A, W10CP02014058A, W10CP03014314A, 2006 WL 3042152, (Conn. Super. Ct. 2008), *rev'd and remanded*, 109 Conn. App. 644 (2008).

In 2006, as an Assistant Attorney General, I was sole bench trial counsel and sole appellate counsel at the trial and appeal of this termination of parental rights petition. The Department of Children and Families sought the termination of the parental rights of the respondent-parents to the subject children based on their failure to rehabilitate.

The trial of this matter was before the Hon. Juliett Crawford, who denied the petitions. On appeal, the trial court's decision was reversed as the appellate court, in a decision by the Hon. Douglas S. Lavine, found it was improper for the trial court to disregard and sua sponte reopen the prior court's earlier neglect findings deciding the termination petition. The cases were remanded for a new trial which was handled by other counsel.

Pursuant to statute, the records of this matter are sealed.

Counsel for the Mother

Della Kathryn Steadman (deceased)

Counsel for the Father

Karen Oliver Damboise
Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel
100 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106

(860) 706-5059

2. *In re Jelani C.*, No. K09CP02008587A, 2006 WL 3929520 (Conn. Super. Ct. Dec. 5, 2006)

As an Assistant Attorney General, I was sole counsel in the State of Connecticut's lengthiest child protection trial – 62 full days over 21 months, from 2004 to 2006. The Department of Children and Families sought and ultimately obtained the termination of the parental rights of four respondent-parents to three subject children based on the felony assault of one of the children by one of the respondent-fathers and the abandonment of two respondent-fathers. As this is a Child Protection matter the file and proceedings and transcripts are statutorily sealed from the public.

The Honorable Carl E. Taylor presided over the bench trial of this matter.

Counsel for Respondent-mother

Sandy M. Moore
The Law Offices of Sandy M. Moore, LLC
80 Broad Street
New London, CT 06320
(860) 444-6124

Other Counsel

Assigned Counsel through the Office of the Chief Public Defender:

Michael Miller
247 Shaw Street
New London, CT 06320
(860) 443-6453

Susan Carr
728 Broad Street Extension
Waterford, CT 06385
(860) 701-1535

Michael Maggiacomo
P.O. Box 772
Danielson, CT 06239
(860) 447-0279

3. *State v. Sachok*, H17B-CR01-0013969-S (Conn. Super. Ct. 2003)

In 2003, as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney, I was sole counsel in the jury trial of this defendant, who was convicted of intimidation based on bigotry or bias related to threats of violence against a Southeast Asian businessman in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, attack. The defendant received a total effective sentence of four years, execution

suspended 15 months to serve, followed by two years of probation. There was no appeal.

The Hon. Bernard D. Gaffney presided over the trial.

Counsel for the Defense

Marc William Vallen
Office of the State's Attorney
New Britain Judicial District
20 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 515-5270

4. *State v. Jamulawicz*, H17BCR020017510T, 2004 WL 1051144 (Conn. Super. Ct. 2004), *aff'd*, 95 Conn. App. 569 (2006), *cert. denied*, 311 Conn. 941(2014)

In 2003, as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney, I was sole counsel at the suppression hearing wherein the defendant, who was charged with criminal possession of a firearm, carrying a dangerous weapon, risk of injury to a minor, reckless endangerment in the first degree, threatening in the second degree, interfering with a police officer, breach of peace in the second degree, and disorderly conduct, moved to suppress the fruits of the search of the subject premises. I argued, and the trial court agreed, that the police possessed the authority to enter the premises for two reasons: consent by a co-habitant; and the co-habitant's apparent authority to consent to a search of the premises. Accordingly, the motion to suppress was denied. The defendant entered a conditional *nolo contendere* plea with the intent to appeal. On May 13, 2004, the court sentenced him to a total effective term of 10 years imprisonment, execution suspended after seven years, and three years of probation. The Appellate Court, in affirming the trial court, held that there was ample evidence to support trial court's determination that the homeowner consented to the officers' initial entry into the home. The Supreme Court denied certification to appeal.

The Hon. Joan K. Alexander presided over the hearing.

Counsel for the Defense

Deron Freeman
Freeman Law Firm, LLC
90 Brainard Road
Suite 201
Hartford, CT 06114
(860) 728-0359

5. *State v. Sawyer*, H17BCR980003618S (Conn. Super. Ct. 2001), *aff'd*, 74 Conn. App. 743 (2006), *rev'd*, 279 Conn. 331 (2006), *overruled by State v. DeJesus*, 228 Conn. 418 (2008)

The defendant was charged with first-degree sexual assault of his developmentally challenged sister-in-law. I was sole counsel in this matter, which I tried successfully to a

jury in 2001, as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney. The defendant was sentenced to 12 years in prison. He appealed the conviction on evidentiary grounds; the appeal was handled by other attorneys. After being affirmed at the Appellate Court, the Connecticut Supreme Court reversed the conviction and remanded the matter for a new trial. The defendant later entered a guilty plea to reduced charges of first-degree unlawful restraint and first-degree reckless endangerment. He was sentenced to five years incarceration, execution suspended, followed by three years of probation. Subsequently, the rationale used by the Court to reverse the conviction was overruled in *State v. DeJesus*.

The Honorable Carmen Espinosa presided over the jury trial.

Counsel for the Defense

James Sward (resigned from the bar)

6. *State v. Stephen O.*, H17BCR020015192S (Feb. 6, 2002), *aff'd*, 106 Conn. App. 717 (2008), *cert. denied*, 287 Conn. 916 (2008).

I was sole counsel as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney in this jury trial, which took place in 2001, of the defendant, who was convicted of sexual assault second degree and risk of injury to a minor. The evidence established a pattern of physical and sexual assault against the developmentally challenged minor. After trial, the court imposed a total effective sentence of 19 years imprisonment, suspended after 16 years, followed by five years of probation.

The Honorable Bernard G. Gaffney (Retired) presided over the jury trial.

Counsel for the Defense

James Sward (resigned from the Connecticut Bar in 2007)

7. *State v. Ciccio*, H17BCR980002175S (Conn. Super. Ct. 2001), *aff'd*, 77 Conn. App. 368 (2003), *cert. denied*, 265 Conn. 905 (2003)

The defendant was convicted of first-degree assault, after striking the teen victim with a wooden pole and causing him serious physical injury. In 2001, as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney and sole counsel in this criminal jury trial, I presented several witnesses, including a medical expert. The defendant was sentenced to 15 years in prison, suspended after a mandatory five-year term, and five years of probation.

The Honorable Carmen Espinosa presided over the jury trial.

Counsel for the Defense

Susan Nawrocki
56 Arbor Street, Suite 109
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 244-8228

8. *State v. Walker*, HHDCR96-0090077-T (Conn. Super. Ct. 2000), *appeal dismissed sub nom. Walker v. Comm'r of Correction*, 110 Conn. App. 816 (2008), *cert. denied*, 289 Conn. 949 (2008)

In 2000, as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney, I was co-counsel for the State of Connecticut at all stages of this criminal litigation, from preliminary motions hearings, through jury selection, trial, the defendant's eventual guilty plea during trial and sentencing. This was the first of two trials of separately tried co-defendants in the 1996 double murder of a physician and his wife in their home. Walker pleaded guilty near the close of the prosecution's case-in-chief and was sentenced to 80 years on two counts of felony murder. Subsequent petitions for habeas corpus relief on claims of involuntary pleas were denied. I was not involved in the trial of the other defendant, Mr. Jones, as I was by that time employed as a prosecutor at a different courthouse.

The Honorable Julia DiCocco Dewey presided over the jury trial.

Co-Counsel for the State

Herbert E. Carlson, Jr. (Retired)

Counsel for the Defense

M. Fred DiCaprio (Retired)

Hon. Karen Goodrow (formerly of the Connecticut Office of the Public Defender)
Judge of the Superior Court
New London Judicial District
70 Huntington Street
New London, CT 06320
(860) 442-2977

9. *State v. Ramos*, H15NCR980178582S, *rev'd in part, judgment directed*, 70 Conn. App. 855 (2002), *rev'd*, 271 Conn. 785 (2004)

In 2000, as a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney, I was co-counsel in the jury trial of this matter in which the defendant was convicted of second-degree assault and possession of a weapon in a motor vehicle involving his use of a hammer to cause physical injury to the victim by striking him on the head. After trial, the court sentenced the defendant to two concurrent sentences of five years, execution suspended, with five years of probation. The Appellate Court reversed the conviction for possession of a weapon in a motor vehicle, finding that the evidence was insufficient to support his conviction on that charge. The Supreme Court reversed the ruling of the Appellate Court and remanded the case to that court with direction to affirm the trial court's judgment of conviction, finding that if a defendant knowingly has an item in a vehicle and intentionally uses that item in a manner capable of causing serious physical injury, the elements of the crime of possession of a weapon in a motor vehicle have been met, regardless of whether he had a prior intent to do so. I was not involved in the appellate litigation.

The Honorable Bernard G. Gaffney (Retired) presided over the jury trial.

Counsel for the Defense

Sharon Elias (formerly of the New Britain Office of the Public Defender)
I am unable to locate current contact information for Ms. Elias.

10. *State v. Buddhu*, 65 Conn. App. 104 (2001), *rev'd and remanded*, 264 Conn. 449 (2003), *cert. denied*, 541 U.S. 1030 (2004)

As a Deputy Assistant State's Attorney, I served as associate counsel in an evidentiary hearing in this case. The defendant was charged with multiple counts of forgery, larceny, money laundering, racketeering. He filed a motion to suppress evidence seized by law enforcement pursuant to a search and seizure warrant, challenging the sufficiency of the warrant's description of the particularity of the place to be searched. After the September 1999 suppression hearing, the trial court found that the search and seizure warrant failed to state with sufficient particularity the location to be search and suppressed the challenged evidence. On appeal, the Appellate Court affirmed and the Connecticut Supreme Court reversed. The defendants' petition for writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court of the United States was denied. The matter was later disposed of by plea agreement on charges of money laundering, forgery, and money laundering, and the defendant was sentenced to a ten years execution suspended after serving one year of incarceration followed by five years of probation.

The Honorable Carmen Espinosa presided over the hearing.

Counsel for the Defense

Wesley S. Spears
145 Glastonbury Turnpike
P.O. Box 462
Glastonbury, CT 06033
(860) 724-0505

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 my regular duties as a judge, I have been the Administrative Judge of the Middlesex Judicial District since 2020. In that role, I am responsible for generally overseeing operations within the courthouse, including the courthouse staff, including clerks, marshals, and judges. For the last three years, I was a member of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission, which proposes potential legislation at the request of the Connecticut Legislature.

I also serve on several committees within the Connecticut judiciary. I have been a member, and now chair, of the Committee on Judicial Ethics, where I have the responsibility of advising colleagues on how to apply the Code of Judicial Conduct to the myriad circumstances that confront judicial officials in and out of the courtroom while still remaining active participants in their legal and social communities, and I serve on the Criminal Jury Instructions Committee, which evaluates new legal precedent and modifies the existing Criminal Jury Instructions to keep them legally correct and understandable to juries. Since 2022, I have also been a member of the Judicial Review Council, which accepts, investigates, adjudicates, and disposes of complaints against judges and administrative law judges pursuant to the Code of Judicial Conduct and other relevant laws, regulations and policies. Additionally, I have presented on various topics to judicial colleagues as faculty of the Connecticut Judges Institute and for the Connecticut Pre-Bench Orientation.

Outside of the judiciary, I have been involved in organizations including Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers-Connecticut, which provides support and referral services to attorneys facing personal struggles related to substance abuse, behavioral health, and gambling, and the Connecticut Hall of Change, which encourages rehabilitation and entrepreneurship in prisoner re-entry efforts.

I have never engaged in lobbying activities 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 four (4) copies to the committee.

None.

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.

None.

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 submitted 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.

A potential conflict of interest could arise from matters brought on collateral review for which I was the judge in Connecticut state court. I would recuse from any such matters in which I had previous involvement in my current role. If other potential conflicts of interest arise, I would follow the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, 28 U.S.C. § 455, and any other relevant ethical laws, rules, or canons.

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

If confirmed, I would evaluate and resolve any potential conflict of interest by applying the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, 28 U.S.C. § 455, and any other relevant ethical laws, rules, or canons.

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.

Given the restrictions on the outside practice of law for employees of the State of Connecticut, I have made great efforts to participate in serving the disadvantaged in ways other than the provision of pro bono representation. For example, I have organized food and clothing drives, volunteered at a soup kitchen, appeared frequently at my "alma mater" elementary school, worked with a prisoner re-entry non-profit, and served as a frequent speaker for the Connecticut Judicial Branch and Connecticut Bar Association.

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.

On January 20, 2023, I applied to the Offices of Senators Blumenthal and Murphy for a federal judicial vacancy in the District of Connecticut. On January 30, 2023, I was contacted and offered an interview with the Connecticut Senators' Advisory Panel. On February 4, 2023, I interviewed with the Senators' Advisory Committee. On February 15, 2023, I interviewed with Senators Blumenthal and Murphy. On March 3, 2023, I was interviewed by attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office. Since March 4, 2023, I have been in contact with officials from the Office of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice. On May 3, 2023, the President announced his intent to nominate me.

- 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.