UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

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

   Robert Michael Duncan, Jr. My nickname is Rob.

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

   United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

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.

   260 West Vine Street
   Suite 300
   Lexington, Kentucky 40507

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

   1978; Ashland, Kentucky

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

   University of Kentucky College of Law, Lexington, Kentucky
   August 2000 – May 2003
   Juris Doctor received May 2003

   Centre College, Danville, Kentucky
   August 1996 – May 2000
   Bachelor of Arts in English with a minor in History received May 2000.

   Centre-in-London Program
   Regent’s College, London, England
   August 1999 – December 1999
   Attended as part of Centre College’s study abroad program. No degree received.

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.

COMPENSATED EMPLOYMENT

January 2005 – Present
Assistant United States Attorney United States Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky
260 West Vine Street
Suite 300
Lexington, Kentucky 40507
Professional Responsibility Officer – 2015 (approximate) to Present
Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Attorney – March 2011 to present
Anti-Gang Coordinator – October 2010 to January 2013
Project Safe Neighborhoods Coordinator – October 2007 to January 2013

September 2003 – January 2005
Law Clerk for Senior U.S. District Judge Henry R. Wilhoit, Jr.
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky
336 Carl Perkins Federal Building
1405 Greenup Avenue
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

September 2003 – January 2005
Member, Board of Directors
Inez Deposit Bank and Community Holding Company
P.O. Box 365
Inez, Kentucky 41224

May 2001 – August 2001
Summer Associate
Sturgill Turner Barker & Moloney PLLC
333 West Vine Street
Suite 1500
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

UNCOMPENSATED EMPLOYMENT

January 2016 – Present
Member, Advisory Council
Trinity Hill United Methodist Church
3600 Tates Creek Road
Lexington, Kentucky 40517
January 2013 – March 2016
Member, Board of Directors
Centre College Alumni Association
600 West Walnut Street
Danville, Kentucky 40422

June 2011 – Present
Member, Board of Directors
Kentucky Governor’s Scholars, Inc.
1024 Capital Center Drive
Suite 210
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

October 2010 – Present
Member, Board of Trustees
Alice Lloyd College and June Buchanan School
100 Purpose Road
Pippa Passes, Kentucky 41884

October 2007 – October 2015
Member, Board of Trustees
Lexington, Kentucky Humane Society
1600 Old Frankfort Pike
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

May 2002 – April 2003 (approximate)
Volunteer Law Student Intern
United States Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky
260 West Vine Street
Suite 300
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

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 have not served in the U.S. military. I have registered for selective service.

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

**U.S. Department of Justice**
2016 U.S. Attorney’s Office EDKY Time-Off Award
2016, 2015 U.S. Attorney’s Office EDKY Time-Off Award
2016, 2008 U.S. Attorney’s Office EDKY Special Act or Service Awards
2010 U.S. Attorney’s Office EDKY “On the Spot Award”
2006 U.S. Attorney’s Office EDKY Danny Smith Victims’ Rights Award

Other Government Agencies
2014 Kentucky State Police, Colonel Aide de Camp, Commissioner’s Staff
2012 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives Certificate of Appreciation

Centre College
2000 John R.S. Brooking Prize for Legal Study
2011 Young Centre Associate of the Year

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.

   Fayette County, Kentucky, Bar Association
      Member (2016 – present)

   American Inns of Courts - Lexington, Kentucky Chapter
      Member (2014 – 2015 (approximate))

   American Bar Association
      Member (2003 – 2015 (approximate))

   Federal Bar Association, Kentucky Chapter
      Member (2006 – present)
      President (2010 – present)

   Commonwealth of Kentucky Bar Association
      Member (2003 – present)

   Federalist Society
      Member (2003 – present (approximate, may have had break in membership))

   U.S. Department of Justice
      U.S. Attorney’s Office EDKY Committee on Electronic Case Files (2015 – 2016)

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.

        Commonwealth of Kentucky, admitted October 2003 (no lapses in membership)
b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States Supreme Court, admitted January 2017 (no lapses in membership)

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, admitted December 2003 (no lapses in membership)

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, admitted December 2003 (no lapses in membership)

11. **Memberships**:

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

Lexington Polo Club (community pool) (May 2017 to present)
Centre College Alumni Association Board of Directors (January 2013 to March 2016)
Andover Golf and Country Club (2012 to 2016)
Member of Kentucky Governor’s Scholars, Inc., Board of Directors (June 2011 to present)
Alice Lloyd College Board of Trustees (October 2010 to present). I am a member of the Executive Committee and Business Affairs Committee.
Lexington, Kentucky, Humane Society Board of Trustees (October 2007 to October 2015 (approximate))

In addition, I have made financial contributions to charitable organizations over the years. Such organizations may list me as a member by virtue of my financial contribution. I have not listed any organizations to which I gave funds and did not otherwise participate in programmatic activities.

b. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

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

12. Published Writings and Public Statements:

a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.


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.

Not applicable. I have not prepared or contributed to any of the requested information.

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.

Not applicable. I have not given any testimony or official statements.

d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

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

August 18, 2017
University of Kentucky College of Law 1L Orientation – The College of Law Honor Code
University of Kentucky College of Law
550 South Limestone Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40506
Copy not available

I provided welcoming remarks to first year law students and their families, read the College of Law Honor Code, and discussed its importance.

June 21, 2017
Professional Responsibility Update – Special Duties of a Prosecutor and Conflicts of Interest
United States Attorney’s Office, Eastern District of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky
Copy of PowerPoint supplied

March 17, 2017
The History of the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky
Greater Lexington Paralegals Association
Lexington, Kentucky
Copy of PowerPoint supplied

December 2016 (approximate)
The Duties of a Federal Prosecutor
Professor Allison Connelly’s Criminal Trial Process Class
University of Kentucky College of Law
620 South Limestone Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40506
Copy not available

I discussed the duties and responsibilities of an Assistant United States Attorney to a class of second and third year law students.

September 22, 2016 (approximate)
OCDETF Interdiction Training
Drug Enforcement Administration
997 Governor’s Lane
Lexington, Kentucky 40513
Law enforcement sensitive

I provided an overview of pertinent case law related to the Fourth Amendment to federal and state law enforcement officers. I discussed relevant Department of Justice (DOJ) policies and prosecution guidelines related to vehicle interdiction and search and seizure issues.

May 2015 (approximate)
OCDETF District Meeting
Federal Medical Center
3301 Leestown Road
Lexington, Kentucky 40511
Copy not available

I provided an overview to federal, state, and local law enforcement officers of electronic surveillance issues, including discussion of legal and DOJ policy requirements for obtaining and employing wiretaps.

April 2014 (approximate)
DEA Basic Drug Investigation
Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training
521 Lancaster Avenue
Richmond, Kentucky 40475
Copy not available

I discussed the legal elements and DOJ requirements for prosecutions of controlled substance analogues and other designer drugs.

March 2014 (approximate)
Issues in Electronic Surveillance
Professor William Fortune’s Criminal Procedure Class
University of Kentucky College of Law
620 South Limestone Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40506
Copy not available

I covered the various federal statutes governing electronic surveillance, including wiretaps, pen registers, cellphone tracking, and vehicle trackers.

March 2013 (approximate)
Electronic Surveillance Issues
Fayette County Bar Association
Fayette County Circuit Court
120 North Limestone Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40507
Copy not available
I covered the various federal statutes governing electronic surveillance, including wiretaps, pen registers, cellphone tracking, and vehicle trackers.

May 2012 and May 2013 (approximate)
Madison County Anti-Drug Coalition
Bluegrass Army Depot
431 Battlefield Memorial Highway
Richmond, Kentucky 40475
Copy not available

I spoke about the emergence and danger of various synthetic drugs, including “synthetic marijuana” and “bath salts” at the invitation of the Kentucky State Police.

November 2012 (approximate)
Kentucky Narcotics Officers Association Annual Conference
Hyatt Regency Hotel
311 South 4th Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
Copy not available

I spoke to a group of middle and senior level narcotics officers regarding the investigation and prosecution of designer drug cases, including cases involving “synthetic marijuana” and “bath salts.”

July 2012 (approximate)
OCDETF Great Lakes Regional Meeting
United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Michigan
330 Ionia Avenue, Northwest
Suite 501
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Copy not available

I presented case status reports on pending OCDETF investigations to senior level federal law enforcement agents and prosecutors at the Regional Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

July 2010
DOJ Project Safe Neighborhoods Conference
New Orleans Downtown Marriott at the Convention Center
859 Convention Center Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Copy not available

I spoke to federal, state, and local law enforcement officers during a conference break out session regarding federal firearms and drug laws. I also spoke to a
breakout session regarding federal domestic violence and firearms prosecutions.

August 2009 (approximate)
Kentucky Prosecutors Conference
403 West Vine Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40507
Copy not available

I spoke to the annual conference during a general session meeting regarding federal firearms laws and recent prosecutions.

May 2009 (approximate)
Gatlinburg Regional Law Enforcement Conference
Gatlinburg Convention Center
234 Historic Nature Trail
Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Copy not available

I spoke to federal, state, and local law enforcement officers at a breakout session regarding federal firearms and drug laws.

e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

I was interviewed for and appeared briefly in an episode of the CNBC documentary program American Greed. The original airdate of the program was April 4, 2012. The documentary focused on the criminal prosecution of the Erpenbeck family for various crimes. I was interviewed about my prosecution of patriarch Anthony Erpenbeck for solicitation to murder a federal judge, an FBI agent, and an AUSA in the Southern District of Ohio. Copy supplied.

13. Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:

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

   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.
11

In July 1996, I served as a Page at the Republican National Convention in San Diego, California.

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

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

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


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

I have not practiced alone.

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

United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky  
260 West Vine Street  
Suite 300  
Lexington, Kentucky 40507  
Assistant United States Attorney, 2005 – present

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky  
336 Carl Perkins Federal Building  
1405 Greenup Avenue  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101  
Law Clerk to Senior Judge Henry R. Wilhoit, Jr., 2003 – 2005

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

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator.

b. Describe:

i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.
From 2003 to 2005, I served as a judicial law clerk, conducting legal research and writing and preparing draft opinions.

In 2005, I began my career as an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky where I currently work. During my career, I have prosecuted different types of cases and held various roles within the office. I routinely appear in U.S. District Court. I also have drafted appellate briefs and argued cases at the appellate level.

From 2003 to 2007, I conducted grand jury investigations and prosecutions of various crimes, including firearms, narcotics, violent crime, public corruption, white collar, and child exploitation.

From 2007 to 2013, I served as the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Coordinator. From 2010 to 2013, I also served as the Anti-Gang Coordinator. I reviewed firearm, violent crime, and gang cases for potential federal prosecution. I conducted grand jury investigations and prosecutions of these cases. I coordinated and attended relevant law enforcement training and community outreach events. I assisted PSN points of contact in my Office’s branch offices in implementing PSN directives. I served as a point of contact for ATF and other federal, state, and local agencies.

Since 2011, I have been an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) attorney. As an OCDETF attorney, I investigate and prosecute complex multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency drug trafficking and money laundering cases, including cases involving various international drug cartels, with the goal of dismantling and disrupting these criminal organizations. I frequently interact with senior management of federal, state, and law enforcement agencies regarding current investigations and policy decisions.

Since 2015, I have served as the Professional Responsibility Officer for the Office. I provide advice and guidance regarding professional responsibility and legal ethics issues in both criminal and civil cases. I interact with members of the DOJ Professional Responsibility Office.

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

I have represented the United States and its agencies, officers, or employees throughout my legal career. I have specialized in criminal prosecution and trial litigation for my entire career. Since 2011, I have specialized in complex, multi-jurisdictional OCDETF drug trafficking and money laundering cases. During my judicial clerkship, I worked on
primarily civil and administrative cases.

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. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
   1. federal courts: 100%
   2. state courts of record: 0%
   3. other courts: 0%
   4. administrative agencies: 0%

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
   1. civil proceedings: 5%
   2. criminal proceedings: 95%

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

   I have tried 32 criminal cases to verdict in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky. In three other cases, trials commenced but resulted in guilty pleas before a verdict was reached. Of the cases that reached a verdict at trial, I was lead counsel in 29 cases and co-counsel in 3 cases. I have argued two cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

i. What percentage of these trials were:
   1. Jury: 100%
   2. non-jury: 0%

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

   I have not appeared before the Supreme Court of the United States.

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

b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and

c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

Any of my co-counsel listed below are or were Assistant United States Attorneys from the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky. The address is:

260 West Vine Street,
Suite 300, Lexington, Kentucky 40507.

The telephone number is (859) 685-4800.

1. United States v. Benito Segura Tovar, et al.,
Lexington Criminal Action Number 15-13-KKC,
2014 – 2017
Chief Judge Karen K. Caldwell, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

Co-counsel:
AUSA Gary Todd Bradbury
260 West Vine Street,
Suite 300, Lexington, Kentucky 40507.
(859) 685-4800

Opposing Counsel:
Mike Whalen, Esq.
905 Locust Street
Knoxville, TN 37902
(865) 525-1393
Counsel for Benito Segura Tovar

Andrew M. Stephens, Esq.
107 Church Street
Suite 200
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 233-2232
Counsel for Miguel Salas

Sean C. Marcum, Esq.
300 West Short Street
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 806-8148
Counsel for Edgar Francisco Villa Castaneda

Christopher A. Spedding, Esq.
631 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-0050
Counsel for Julio Villa Arana

R. Burl McCoy, Esq.
Stoll Keenon Ogden, PLLC – Lexington
300 West Vine Street
Suite 2100
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 231-3000
Counsel for Nestor Orlando Luna

Rachel Diane Yavelak, Esq.
Oeltgen & D’Ambrosio, PLLC
120 North Mill Street
Suite 300
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 523-1606
Counsel for Eber Jonathan Rodriguez Robles

R. Tucker Richardson III, Esq.
Baldani, Rowland & Richardson
300 West Short Street
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 259-0727
Counsel for Roberto Sosa Chavez

Thomas C. Lyons, Esq.
201 West Short Street
Suite 800
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 231-0055
Counsel for Maurice Martinez Jackson

Richard R. Melville, Esq.
333 West Vine Street
Suite 400
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 244-7424
Counsel for Raul Garcia Valencia
David J. Guarneri, Esq.
McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie & Kirkland, PLLC
201 East Main Street
Suite 900
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 231-8780
Counsel for Adrian Sosa Sanchez

David Russell Marshall, Esq.
109 Court Row
Nicholasville, KY 40356
(859) 885-3192
Counsel for Arisbeth Garcia Notario

William Daniel Carman, Esq.
271 West Short Street
Suite 512
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 685-1055
Counsel for Saulo Zuniga Arreola

Elisabeth S. Hughes, Esq.
Green, Chestnut & Hughes PLLC
201 East Main Street
Suite 1250
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 475-1471
Counsel for Stanley D. Watkins

Frederick J. Anderson, Esq.
269 West Main Street
400 Court Square Building
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 253-0084
Counsel for Clyde R. Endicott

Matthew Ryan Malone, Esq.
Hurt Deckard & May, PLLC
127 West Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 254-0000
Counsel for Norman J. McKinley

Justin Thomas Genco, Esq.
305 Main Street
P.O. Box 164
Benito Segura Tovar, Miguel Salas, Edgar Villa Castaneda, and approximately 20 other members of the Segura Tovar drug trafficking and money laundering organization were successfully prosecuted for conspiring to distribute cocaine and marijuana, conspiring to commit money laundering, and other offenses. In comments made in open Court at various sentencing hearings, Chief Judge Caldwell has called the Segura Tovar organization one of the most sophisticated drug trafficking and money laundering organizations to be prosecuted in the Eastern District of Kentucky.

The Segura Tovar organization was responsible for the distribution of multiple kilograms of cocaine, the distribution of thousands of pounds of marijuana, and the laundering of millions of dollars of drug proceeds as part of a Mexican drug cartel. Because of the investigation and prosecution, the Segura Tovar organization has been dismantled.

I was lead counsel in this prosecution. AUSA Gary Todd Bradbury was co-counsel. As lead counsel, I oversaw the preparation of the investigation for trial, including the filing of pleadings and court appearances. I appeared in Court arguing positions on behalf of the government, including appearing as lead counsel during a trial of one of the defendants.
The investigation leading to the prosecution was conducted as part of an OCDETF investigation with agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), and other law enforcement agencies. During the investigation, I helped draft, obtain, and employ several wiretaps on cellphones used by the conspirators, as well as motions for other types of electronic surveillance. The investigation resulted in the seizure of over 100 pounds of marijuana, approximately 5 kilograms of cocaine, and the seizure and forfeiture of nearly $1,000,000 in bulk cash.

All charged defendants were convicted, with the majority pleading guilty. One defendant, Raul Garcia Valencia, went to trial and was convicted of conspiring to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine, conspiring to commit money laundering, and traveling in interstate commerce to further drug trafficking activities. Garcia Valencia was sentenced to nearly 13 years in prison. Other organization leaders were sentenced to lengthy sentences of imprisonment. Miguel Salas and Edgar Villa Castaneda were both sentenced to 14 ½ years imprisonment. Segura Tovar received approximately 15 years imprisonment. One defendant, Garcia Valencia, is pending appeal.

2. United States v. Isai Ruiz Pedraza, et al.,
Judge Danny C. Reeves, U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

Co-counsel:
AUSA Gary Todd Bradbury
260 West Vine Street,
Suite 300, Lexington, Kentucky 40507.
(859) 685-4800

Opposing Counsel:
Joseph (Rob) Eggert, Esq. and
John Casey McCall, Esq.
600 West Main Street
Suite 300
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 589-6190
Counsel for Isai Ruiz Pedraza

Pamela Ledgewood, Esq.
271 West Short Street
Suite 403
I was lead counsel in this investigation and prosecution. AUSA Gary Todd Bradbury was co-counsel.

Isai Ruiz Pedraza, Alfredo Garcia Albores, Ezequiel Arias Orozco, Jose Guerra, and Juan Avila, were charged with conspiring to distribute cocaine. Ruiz Pedraza was also charged with conspiring to commit money laundering and possession of a machine gun. The investigation was part of an OCDETF investigation conducted with DEA and ATF. During the investigation, I helped draft, obtain, and employ several wiretaps on cellphones used by the conspirators, as well as motions for other types of electronic surveillance. The investigation resulted in the seizure of 28 kilograms of cocaine, approximately $400,000 of drug proceeds, and several firearms, including a fully automatic machine gun.

In July 2016, Ruiz Pedraza, Arias Orozco, Guerra, and Avila went to trial. After a weeklong trial, all four were convicted of conspiring to distribute cocaine. Ruiz Pedraza was also convicted of conspiring to commit money laundering and possession of a machine gun. Garcia Albores pleaded guilty prior to trial and testified. In October 2016, Ruiz Pedraza was sentenced to over 21 years imprisonment. Arias Orozco was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment, and Guerra and Avila to
approximately 10 years imprisonment each. Garcia Albores received 7 years imprisonment. Ruiz Pedraza, Arias Orozco, Guerra, and Avila are pending appeal.

Chief Judge Karen K. Caldwell, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

Opposing Counsel:
Derek G. Gordon, Esq.
Anggelis & Gordon, PLLC
231 Lexington Avenue
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-7761
Counsel for Cesar Edgardo Mariscal Felix

Stephen D. Milner, Esq.
Hughes, Lowery, Milner & Hayworth
271 West Short Street
Suite 812
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 233-4441
Counsel for Jorge Armando Gomez Macias

Thomas C. Lyons, Esq.
201 West Short Street
Suite 800
Lexington, KY 40507
(859) 231-0055
Counsel for Jesus Eleobardo Ruiz-Vega

H. Wayne Roberts, Esq.
3229 Polo Club Boulevard
Lexington, KY 40509
(859) 225-0062
Counsel for Lance Wayne Morton

Brian Butler, Esq.
Dathorne & Butler
600 West Main Street
Suite 500
Louisville, KY 40202

I was lead counsel in this investigation and prosecution. The
prosecution of Cesar Mariscal Felix was conducted as part of an OCDETF investigation with DEA into the drug trafficking and money laundering activities of the Sinaloa Cartel in Lexington, Kentucky, and elsewhere. The investigation of Mariscal Felix, and the prosecution of companion cases (United States v. Luis Rincon Flores, Lexington Criminal Action Number 13-132-KKC; and United States v. Emmanuel Solorzano, Lexington Criminal Action Number 13-144-KKC), resulted in the seizure of approximately $2,000,000 of drug proceeds in bulk United States currency, approximately 200 kilograms of cocaine, and firearms.

As lead counsel, I helped draft several search warrants, which resulted in the seizure of drugs, money, weapons, and other evidence that was used in the prosecution. I prepared the case for prosecution, including drafting all pleadings. I appeared frequently in Court, including at suppression hearings, change of plea hearings, and sentencing hearings. I participated in the debriefing of witnesses and cooperating defendants which helped gather evidence used in other investigations and prosecutions.

Because of the prosecution of Mariscal Felix and the two companion cases, approximately 10 defendants were convicted of drug trafficking and/or money laundering. In February 2016, Mariscal Felix was sentenced to approximately 10 years imprisonment. Mariscal Felix is appealing his sentence.

   Lexington Criminal Action Number 12-102-JMH
   2012 - 2014
   Senior Judge Joseph M. Hood, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

   Counsel in related prosecution:
   AUSA Erin Roth
   260 West Vine Street,
   Suite 300, Lexington, Kentucky 40507
   (859) 685-4800

   Opposing Counsel:
   Derek G. Gordon, Esq.
   Anggelis & Gordon, PLLC
   231 Lexington Avenue
   Lexington, KY 40508
   (859) 255-7761
   Counsel for Zafar Iqbal Nasir
David Allen Lambertus, Esq.
600 West Main Street
Suite 300
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 589-6190
Counsel for Joshua Logan Fox

David A. Torres, Esq.
1318 K Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 326-0857
Counsel for Victor Manuel Collindres Hernandez

Patrick F. Nash, Esq. and
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I was lead counsel in the investigation and prosecution. AUSA Erin Roth prosecuted defendant Seth J. Johnston in a related fraud prosecution. The investigation and prosecution was conducted as part of an OCDETF investigation, with DEA, the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigations Division (IRS-CID), the Lexington, Kentucky, Police Department, and other law enforcement agencies, into the drug trafficking and money laundering activities of the Zafar I. Nasir organization. The investigation revealed that Nasir obtained large quantities of synthetic cannabinoids (“synthetic marijuana”) and synthetic cathinones (“bath salts”) and distributed them at various convenience stores in central Kentucky. The investigation further revealed that Nasir and his partners’ purchases of the drugs were funded, in part, by money Lexington attorney Seth J. Johnston stole from clients. As the investigation progressed, investigators learned that Johnston obstructed justice by trying to influence the testimony of a cooperating defendant and by destroying documents.

As part of the investigation, I helped prepare subpoenas for documentary evidence. I assisted in the drafting of search warrants that led to the seizure of drugs, money, and items of physical evidence used in the prosecution.

Once the case was charged, I was involved in all aspects of the prosecution including drafting all pleadings and appearing in Court. Because of the nature of the synthetic drugs, there was significant pretrial litigation. This litigation included challenges to the constitutionality of the Controlled Substance Analogue Act, the statute
with which the defendants were charged. There were also *Daubert*
challenges to the reliability of the opinions expressed by government
experts. I successfully litigated each of these issues, resulting in the
denial of the motion to suppress and an order allowing the government’s
experts to testify at trial.

Because of the Court’s rulings, all charged defendants, including Nasir
and Johnston, pleaded guilty to the drug charges. Nasir was sentenced
to approximately 6 years imprisonment. Johnston was sentenced to
approximately 20 years imprisonment as part of this investigation, as
well as his guilty plea to a related fraud case handled by AUSA Roth.

The case was significant for several reasons. The Nasir organization
received bulk shipments of chemicals from China. Investigators were
able to identify the Chinese source and provide that information to
international law enforcement agencies. The investigation and
prosecution resulted in the dismantlement of the organization, including
the conviction of the persons who manufactured the synthetic drugs in
the United States, who used the bulk chemicals shipped from China.
The synthetic drugs distributed by Nasir posed a significant public
health hazard as the chemicals used to make them were extremely toxic
and the dosage units were uneven amongst the packets of drugs,
meaning that users could be more susceptible to overdose. Additionally,
attorney Johnston was held accountable for his criminal conduct,
including his obstructive behavior.

Lexington Criminal Action Number 11-141-JMH,
2011 - 2017
Senior Judge Joseph M. Hood, U.S. District Court for the Eastern
District of Kentucky

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Counsel for Nikita Montel Jenkins
I was sole counsel in this investigation and prosecution. The investigation was conducted as part of an OCDETF investigation with ATF into the drug trafficking and violent criminal activities of a drug trafficking organization led by Jakolbe Leon Chenault in Richmond, Kentucky. Because of the investigation and prosecution, Chenault and several others were convicted of distributing cocaine, and Chenault’s organization was dismantled. Chenault was sentenced to approximately 20 years in federal prison for his drug trafficking conviction.

As sole counsel, I helped draft several search warrants, which resulted in the seizure of drugs, money, weapons, and other evidence that was used in the prosecution. I prepared the case for prosecution, including drafting all pleadings. I appeared frequently in Court, including at suppression hearings, change of plea hearings, and sentencing hearings. I participated, along with the law enforcement case agents, in debriefing interviews of numerous witnesses.

Through interviews of various cooperating defendants and other witnesses, investigators learned that Chenault and three others contracted the killing of a rival drug dealer. State charges were filed against the two contract killers, who both pleaded guilty and received sentences in excess of 20 years. The state murder investigation remains ongoing.

6. *United States v. Gary Milby and Bryan Coffman*
Lexington Criminal Action Number 09-181-KKC
2009 - 2012
Chief Judge Karen K. Caldwell, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

Co-counsel:
AUSA Ken Taylor
I was co-counsel with AUSA Ken Taylor during this prosecution. Milby and Coffman were convicted of conspiracy to commit and committing acts of mail and wire fraud. Milby and Coffman were responsible for defrauding over 600 investors out of approximately $30,000,000 in conjunction with an oil and gas scheme in which they claimed there were working oil and gas wells that produced tremendous return on investment, when, in fact, there were no such wells. Many of the investors resided in Canada. The scheme involved offices and bank accounts opened and maintained in Canada, Panama, and the Bahamas.

As co-counsel, I helped AUSA Taylor prepare the case for trial by interviewing witnesses and marshalling evidence to use at trial. I participated in the nearly month long trial by conducting the direct and cross examinations of several witnesses. As a result of the trial, both Milby and Coffman were convicted. Coffman’s wife, Meghan, was acquitted. Milby and Coffman were each sentenced to over 20 years imprisonment.

7. 148 Gang Prosecution (Seven related investigations and prosecutions) 2009 - 2012
All of the cases were initially assigned to the late Senior Judge Karl S. Forester, and are now assigned to Senior Judge Joseph M. Hood, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

In all cases listed in this paragraph, I was co-counsel with:

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United States v. James Thomas, et al., Lexington Criminal Action  
Number 10-72-KSF

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United States v. Antwan Bryant, et al., Lexington Criminal Action
Number 10-73-KSF

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United States v. Jermaine Ransom, et al., Lexington Criminal Action
Number 10-74-KSF

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United States v. Everett Abney, Lexington Criminal Action Number 10-76-KSF

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United States v. Aretha Fisher, et al., Lexington Criminal Action Number 10-77-KSF
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The 148 Gang investigation and prosecution was conducted with ATF and the Kentucky State Police (KSP) into the armed drug trafficking activities of members and associates of the 148 Gang in Paris, Kentucky. The investigation and prosecution resulted in the conviction of 57 people affiliated with the 148 Gang, and dismantled the criminal organization. As co-counsel, I was responsible for handling the prosecution of approximately one-third of the 57 defendants charged. I drafted pleadings and frequently appeared in Court.

Judge Gregory F. Van Tatenhove, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

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Alice Marie Stapleton was employed as a corrections officer at the United States Penitentiary Big Sandy in Martin County, Kentucky.
After an FBI investigation, Stapleton was charged with smuggling heroin and other contraband items for inmates at the prison. As lead counsel, I assisted the FBI case agents with drafting search warrants resulting in the seizure of evidence used at trial. I assisted in interviewing witnesses. I prepared pleadings and other documents for trial. At trial, I served as lead counsel and conducted examinations of several witnesses, including the cross examination of Stapleton. At the conclusion of the trial, Stapleton was convicted of drug trafficking and the introduction of contraband. Stapleton was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment. The case was significant because it was the first prosecution of a member of the staff at the prison.

Lexington Criminal Action Number 06-71-JMH  
2006 - 2007  
Senior Judge Joseph M. Hood, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

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I was lead counsel. In 2005, Barnett carjacked and kidnapped a female victim in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky. Barnett evaded arrest for nearly a year. In 2006, Barnett was located at a residence in Mt. Sterling. Law enforcement personnel, including FBI special agents, surrounded the residence and a standoff ensued. During the standoff, Barnett shot at
one of the agents as the agent approached the residence. Ultimately, Barnett was apprehended.

Barnett was charged with the carjacking and kidnapping, as well as attempted murder of an FBI agent. Barnett proceeded to trial. In preparation for trial, I interviewed numerous witnesses and prepared pleadings. At trial, I handled the majority of the witnesses including the cross-examination of Barnett. Barnett was convicted by the jury and was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment.

10. United States v. Anthony Erpenbeck
Lexington Criminal Action Number 05-57-KSF
2005 - 2006
The late Judge Karl S. Forrester, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

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Co-counsel:
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Erpenbeck was charged with soliciting a hit man to murder U.S. District Judge Arthur S. Spiegel, AUSA Kathy Brinkman, and FBI Special Agent Tim Tracey, who were involved in the prosecution of Erpenbeck and his son for fraud in the Southern District of Ohio. As lead counsel, I prepared the case for trial, filing pleadings, interviewing witnesses, and responding to defense motions. At trial, I served as lead counsel and participated in all aspects of the presentation of the case. At the conclusion of the trial, the jury convicted Erpenbeck. Erpenbeck was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by Judge Forrester.

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

Upon graduation from law school in 2003, I served as a law clerk to the Honorable Henry R. Wilhoit, Jr., Senior United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Ashland, Kentucky. I served as Judge Wilhoit’s law clerk from September 2003 until January 2005. While clerking, I worked on both civil and criminal matters for Judge Wilhoit. I prepared bench memos and motion summaries on pending cases and performed general legal research. I attended all hearings and performed any necessary research for the Court during those hearings. I also served as liaison between Judge Wilhoit’s staff and the United States Clerk’s Office and United States Probation Office.

Since January 2005, I have been employed as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) in the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington, Kentucky. As an AUSA, I litigate criminal and appellate matters, including Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) cases, firearms, violent crime, drug crime, gang crime, public corruption, white collar, child exploitation, environmental, and immigration cases. I also direct multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional investigations and prosecutions.

During my career, I have and continue to appear in court in the Eastern District of Kentucky for various hearings, including change of plea hearings, motions hearings, and sentencings. Additionally, I manage the efforts of litigation support personnel in preparing cases for trial, including the supervision of preparing case files, preparing discovery for disclosure, and complying with Department of Justice policies.

As an AUSA, I have investigated and successfully prosecuted hundreds of federal felony cases. I have successfully tried 32 cases to jury verdict. I also have successfully argued cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Throughout my career as an AUSA, I have attained increasing levels of responsibility. I began my career as an AUSA in 2005 as a general criminal prosecutor, investigating and prosecuting various violations of federal criminal laws. As a member of the Office’s Prison Litigation Unit, I helped draft case initiation guidelines and other policies related to criminal investigation and prosecution of cases at one of the District’s five federal prisons. I also investigated and prosecuted a number of violent crime and public corruption cases arising from the prisons. I served as the point of contact for Environmental Crimes cases and prosecuted various environmental crimes, including Clean Water Act violations, fraud, and false claims. Additionally, I prosecuted various fraud cases, including false claims to benefits and healthcare fraud. I also prosecuted several firearms and violent crime cases.

From October 2007 to January 2013, I served as the Coordinator of the Office’s Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program, a Department of Justice initiative to reduce gun violence and gang crime. As the PSN Coordinator, I served as point of contact on PSN policies, procedures, and best practices. I drafted and submitted PSN reports to the Department of Justice. I also assisted PSN points of contact in the District’s branch.
offices in implementing PSN directives. I acted as a liaison with ATF and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies for the prosecution of firearm offenses and violent crimes. I worked with District’s fiscal agent and PSN steering committee regarding PSN grant funds. I also planned annual community outreach and training events.

Beginning in October 2010, I was asked to become the Anti-Gang Coordinator, along with being the PSN Coordinator. I continued in both roles until January 2013. I reviewed firearm, violent crime, and gang cases for potential federal prosecution. I also attended monthly gang investigation/prosecution meetings, and coordinated and attended relevant training and outreach, including school-based gang prevention programs.

In addition to my PSN and Anti-Gang duties, I continued to prosecute other criminal matters, including drug trafficking, money laundering, and fraud cases. In 2010 and 2011, I served as co-counsel with AUSA Ken Taylor in the investigation and successful prosecution of a $30 million oil and gas fraud scheme perpetrated by a local attorney. I also assisted in drafting, in whole or in part, various appellate briefs related to my cases. I also successfully argued two cases before the United States Court of Appeals of the Sixth Circuit.

In 2011, I was named an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) attorney. From 2011 to the present, I have led OCDETF investigations and prosecutions of Mexican drug cartels operating in the Eastern District of Kentucky and elsewhere. In my OCDETF cases I routinely request permission to use and employ court-authorized electronic surveillance, including Title III intercepts, trackers, and other types of surveillance. These investigations have resulted in: the seizure of over $3,000,000 in cash drug proceeds; the seizure of approximately 200 kilograms of cocaine, several hundred pounds of marijuana and numerous firearms; and the convictions of 51 defendants for assorted drug trafficking, money laundering, and weapons offenses.

I frequently interact with senior management of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies regarding investigations and policy decisions. I have assisted in developing policies for prosecution of money laundering and bulk cash cases. In my current capacity as an OCDETF attorney, I am a subject matter expert for my Office regarding prosecutions of controlled substance analogues and designer drugs, including “synthetic marijuana” and “bath salts.” Additionally, in my current role, I help coordinate and attend relevant training events for law enforcement personnel.

In addition to my OCDETF duties, I continue to prosecute other crimes, including firearms violations. I also continue to assist in preparing, in whole or in part, appellate briefs and responses to collateral attacks pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255.

I currently serve as the Ethics Officer for the Office, advising attorneys and senior staff on various legal ethics issues. As Ethics Officer, in conjunction with the Department of Justice’s Professional Responsibility Office, I provide advice regarding legal ethics issues to the Office’s approximately 40 attorneys. My advice involves the interpretation of both
civil and criminal laws, in conjunction with applicable statutes and regulations concerning professional responsibility and attorney conduct. As Ethics Officer, I conduct annual training for attorneys and support staff.

I have been involved in shaping policy matters within the U.S. Attorney’s Office and with other law enforcement agencies. For instance, in 2016 I helped develop, draft, and implement investigation and prosecution guidelines related to drug and money seizures for a recently created law enforcement initiative in this District. I assisted in developing prosecution guidelines for firearms investigations and prosecutions.

In 2015 and 2016, I was part of an internal working group focused on Office efficiency. The working group recommendations included the conversion of our case filing system from primarily paper to electronic, and the creation and implementation of an electronic shared file system on our Office’s server. Because of the working group’s recommendations, the changes adopted resulted in increased efficiency through the elimination of duplication of effort as well as increased information sharing through the shared file system.

I routinely conduct training for law enforcement agencies on various topics, including search and seizure issues, federal criminal laws, and electronic surveillance issues.

During my career as an AUSA, I have been involved in community outreach projects aimed at educating the community about the dangers of drug use and abuse, the dangers of gang crime, and the safe handling and lawful possession of firearms.

I also serve as a resource and mentor for newer AUSAs, assisting in case management and trial preparation. I have also been involved with the Office’s Summer Law Student Program as a mentor.

17. Teaching: What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

I have not taught any courses.

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

I have a Federal Thrift Savings Plan that I will draw on upon retirement from the federal government.

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

None.

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

See my SF-278 as provided by the Office of Government Ethics.

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

See attached Net Worth Statement.

22. **Potential Conflicts of Interest**:

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

   In connection with the nomination process, I have consulted with the Office of Government Ethics and the Department of Justice’s designated agency ethics official to identify potential conflicts of interest. Any potential conflict of interest will be resolved in accordance with the terms of an ethics agreement that I have entered with the Department’s agency ethics official.

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

   In the event of a potential conflict of interest, I will consult with the ethics officials in the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Department of Justice.

23. **Pro Bono Work**: An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association’s Code of Professional Responsibility calls for “every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged.” Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each. If you are not an attorney, please use this opportunity to report significant charitable and volunteer work you may have done.
My entire legal career has been devoted to public service and much of my work has benefited disadvantaged persons. I have performed various community outreach as part of my employment. This community outreach has been focused on providing information about available resources to combat drug abuse, gun violence, and gang crime.

In addition to my official duties, I have served as a guest speaker at the University of Kentucky College of Law and have served as a mentor to other AUSAs and law students.

I am personally active with various civic and charitable organizations, including the Lexington Ronald McDonald House, where I have volunteered with my family monthly since approximately 2012. The Ronald McDonald House provides, free or at a reduced cost, housing, meals, and other services for families of patients at the University of Kentucky Medical Center and other hospitals. My volunteer activities at the Ronald McDonald house have involved preparing meals for residents of the house. My wife and I also donate financially to support the Lexington Ronald McDonald House.

From 2014 to 2016, I was involved with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Team-In-Training program, completing three half-marathon road races. The funds raised by Team-In-Training go directly to support leukemia and blood cancer research.