APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT

Instructions: Respond fully to the questions asked below. Please make all efforts to include your full answer to each question in this document. You may attach additional pages, as necessary, however it is discouraged. In addition to the application, you must provide a recent color photograph to help identify yourself.

Full Name: <u>John K. Stargel</u> Social Security No.:

Florida Bar No.: <u>0914282</u> Date Admitted to Practice in Florida: 12/31/1991

1. Please state your current employer and title, including any professional position and any public or judicial office you hold, your business address and telephone number.

Sixth District Court of Appeal, 811 E. Main Street, Lakeland, Florida 33801. Main Work #: (863) 940-6041

2. Please state your current residential address, including city, county, and zip code. Indicate how long you have resided at this location and how long you have lived in Florida. Additionally, please provide a telephone number where you can be reached (preferably a cell phone number), and your preferred email address.

and in Florida since 1973. Mobile phone s

I have resided at this address for 21 years,

- 3. State your birthdate and place of birth. 5/14/1964; Somerset, KY
- **4.** Are you a registered voter in Florida (Y/N)? Yes
- 5. Please list all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admissions requirements to which you have ever been admitted to practice, giving the dates of admission, and if applicable, state whether you have ever been suspended or resigned. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

The Florida Bar, 1991

US District Court: Middle District of Florida, 1993 US District Court, Northern District of Florida, 1993

US Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit, 1996

Certified County Court Mediator, 1989

Certified Arbitrator, 1997

Certified Circuit Court Mediator, 2004

JNC, Tenth Judicial Circuit, 2001-2006

6. Have you ever been known by any aliases? If so, please indicate and when you were known by such alias. No.

EDUCATION:

7. List in reverse chronological order each secondary school, college, university, law school or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, the date the degree was received, class standing, and graduating GPA (if your class standing or graduating GPA is unknown, please request the same from such school).

School	Dates Attended	Class Standing	Degree
		/GPA	
Florida State University	1988-1991	Graduated with	Juris Doctorate
College of Law,		honors; Top 1/3	
University of Tampa	1982-1987	High honors	B.S. Economics and
			Business Management;
			Minor: Finance
University of South Florida	1985, 1986	NA	Took summer classes
Bob Jones University	1983	NA	Took some non-degree,
			elective courses
Temple Heights (Tampa, FL)	1978-1982	2 nd ; 3.98 GPA	High School Diploma

- **8.** List and describe any organizations, clubs, fraternities or sororities, and extracurricular activities you engaged in during your higher education. For each, list any positions or titles you held and the dates of participation.
 - -Federalist Society, FSU law school,(1989-91); Vice-President and one of the founding members of the FSU law school chapter. Attended student symposium in Washington, D.C.
 - -Christian Legal Society, FSU law school chapter (1988-1991)
 - -Law School Appropriations Committee, (1990-91); Distributed funds to student organizations.
 - -University of Tampa Diplomat (1985-87); Campus leader and representative for the university at community events.

EMPLOYMENT:

9. List in reverse chronological order all full-time jobs or employment (including internships and clerkships) you have held since the age of 21. Include the name and address of the employer, job title(s) and dates of employment. For non-legal employment, please briefly describe the position and provide a business address and telephone number.

Legal Employment	Position	Address	Dates
Sixth District Court of Appeal	DCA Judge	811 E. Main Street	2023-
		Lakeland, FL 33801	present
Second District Court of Appeal	DCA Judge	811 E. Main Street	2020-2023

		Lakeland, FL 33801	
Tenth Judicial Circuit, Florida	Circuit Judge	255 N. Broadway, Bartow, FL 33830	2007-2020
Shelby, Medina and Stargel	Partner	904 S. Florida Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33801	2004-2007
Florida House of Representatives	State Representative	400 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399	2002-2006
Richland Properties, LLC; Richland Towers, LLC; Richland Investments, LLC	General Counsel	5201 W. Kennedy Blvd, Tampa, FL	2000-2007
W.S. Badcock Corp.	Assistant General Counsel	P.O. Box 232 Mulberry, FL 33860	1992-2000
Florida Tax and Budget Reform Commission	Staff Attorney/ Analyst	201 Holland Building Tallahassee, FL 32399	1990-1992
Pennington, Wilkinson, Dunlap, Bateman and Camp, P.A.	Law Clerk	215 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399	Summer 1990
Florida House of Representatives	Legislative Intern	400 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399	1989-1990
Stowell, Anton and Kraemer, P.A.	Law Clerk	211 E. Call St. Tallahassee, FL 32399	Summer 1989
Non-Legal Employment	Position	Address	Dates
Costco Wholesale Description: Wholesale Merchandising; Supervised over 30 people in various management positions before leaving to attend law school	Manager; started as hourly employee during college	Hwy 60 and 22 nd St. Tampa, FL	1984-1988

10. Describe the general nature of your current practice including any certifications which you possess; additionally, if your practice is substantially different from your prior practice or if you are not now practicing law, give details of prior practice. Describe your typical clients or former clients and the problems for which they sought your services.

My practice was primarily in civil litigation, corporate compliance, real estate, and some estate planning. As general counsel, I had responsibility for as many as 20 legal staff and attorneys reporting to me. I also coordinated all litigation, including complex commercial litigation and defense of 7 class actions.

11. What percentage of your appearance in court in the last five years or in the last five years of practice (include the dates) was:

Court			Area of Practice		
Federal Appellate		%	Civil	90	%
Federal Trial	30	%	Criminal		%

Federal Other		_ %	Family		%
State Appellate		_ %	Probate	10	%
State Trial	_70	_ %	Other		%
State Administrative		_ %			
State Other		_ %			
TOTAL	100	9 %	TOTAL	100	%
If your appearance in please provide a brief		years is	s substantially different fr	om your prior p	oractice,
12. In your lifetime, how decision were:	many (number) of	the cas	ses that you tried to verdic	ct, judgment, or	final
Jury? 100)+ as a judge; _{No} juo	on-jury dge; H	? Over 1000 final hea	arings or benc	h trials as a
Arbitration?			Administrative Bodies?		
Appellate?					
States Supreme Cour District Court of App	t, a United States Coeal, providing the call address(es), and	Circuit (case na teleph	substantially participated) Court, the Florida Suprem me, jurisdiction, case nun one number(s) for opposi e that citation.	e Court, or a Fl nber, date of arg	orida gument,
Hundreds as an appe	llate judge but I did	not pr	actice appellate law durin	g my years in p	ractice.
disciplined, placed or which you have appe	n probation, suspendared? If so, please s	ded, or state the	ormally reprimanded, sand terminated by an employ e circumstances under who me(s) of any persons who	er or tribunal be	efore was

15. In the last ten years, have you failed to meet any deadline imposed by court order or received notice that you have not complied with substantive requirements of any business or contractual

the background and resolution of such action. No.

arrangement? If so, please explain full. No.

- **16.** For your last six cases, which were tried to verdict or handled on appeal, either before a jury, judge, appellate panel, arbitration panel or any other administrative hearing officer, list the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the trial/appellate counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases). *This question is optional for sitting judges who have served five years or more*.
- **17.** For your last six cases, which were either settled in mediation or settled without mediation or trial, list the names and telephone numbers of trial counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases). *This question is optional for sitting judges who have served five years or more.*
- **18.** During the last five years, on average, how many times per month have you appeared in Court or at administrative hearings? If during any period you have appeared in court with greater frequency than during the last five years, indicate the period during which you appeared with greater frequency and succinctly explain.
 - During my tenure of almost 14 years as a trial judge, I was involved in bench trials, hearings or jury trials almost every day.
- **19.** If Questions 16, 17, and 18 do not apply to your practice, please list your last six major transactions or other legal matters that were resolved, listing the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the other party counsel. N/A
- **20.** During the last five years, if your practice was greater than 50% personal injury, workers' compensation or professional malpractice, what percentage of your work was in representation of plaintiffs or defendants? N/A
- 21. List and describe the five most significant cases which you personally litigated giving the case style, number, court and judge, the date of the case, the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the other attorneys involved, and citation to reported decisions, if any. Identify your client and describe the nature of your participation in the case and the reason you believe it to be significant.
 - George W. Bush v. Polk County Canvassing Board, 2000CA-004199
 I served as the Polk County attorney in the election recounts for George W. Bush in the 2000 presidential election. I coordinated legal efforts with attorneys in Tampa, Tallahassee, and Washington, D.C. This case was dismissed after US Supreme Court Decision. Polk County Circuit Court, Judge Ron Herring, retired; Bob Grizzard, Opposing Counsel (retired)
 - 2) W.S. Badock Corp. v. Myers, 696 So2d 776 (1st DCA 1997)

Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices act claims in state class action case; I coordinated the efforts between this case and similar cases in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi Class Action Settlement Holmes Co. Circuit Court, Judge Russell Cole; Jim Fensom, Opposing Counsel (now sitting judge); John Johnson, Trenam Kemker, Counsel of Record

- 3) Charlotte Kiefer v. W.S. Badcock Corp., 1999CA000831 (1999)
 Dispute with contract dealer; Arbitration provision in contract upheld. I was assigned counsel and worked with outside counsel on numerous dealer cases that went to arbitration after arbitration provision was upheld. Confidential Resolution, Pasco County Circuit Court; Judge Linda Babb; Hutch Brock, Opposing Counsel,
- 4) In Re: Consolidated "Non-Filing Insurance" Fee Litigation, In re W.S. Badcock Corporation; US District Court, Middle District of Alabama Badcock and other companies who financed chattel property were being sued in numerous state and federal courts. Badcock alone had approximately 50 such cases filed all trying to get class certification in their local courts. I was the assigned attorney for Badcock and coordinated all aspects of the class settlement in this matter for customers in several states. Class Action Settlement; Several plaintiff's attorneys in various jurisdictions; Several attorneys in various jurisdictions assisted in the local defense before consolidation. Crossclaim (resolved after lengthy arbitration): W.S. Badcock Corp. v. American Bankers Insurance Group- claim to recover damages for product sold as "non-filing" insurance which subsequently led to numerous class action cases. Confidential Resolution, American Arbitration Association.
- 5) In Re: W.S. Badcock Corporation, Class Action, Sumter County, Alabama Consumer class-action based on claim of forced placement of consumer account insurance and failure to deliver insurance certificates. I was the assigned attorney who worked with outside counsel and coordinated the settlement for all Alabama credit customers. Class Action Settlement, Judge Eddie Hardaway, Jr., Sumter County, Alabama.
- **22.** Attach at least two, but no more than three, examples of legal writing which you personally wrote. If you have not personally written any legal documents recently, you may attach a writing sample for which you had substantial responsibility. Please describe your degree of involvement in preparing the writing you attached.

PRIOR JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE OR PUBLIC OFFICE

23. Have you ever held judicial office or been a candidate for judicial office? If so, state the court(s) involved, the dates of service or dates of candidacy, and any election results.

Judicial Service: Circuit Judge for the Tenth Judicial Circuit, elected in 2006, and subsequently re-elected without opposition in 2012 and 2018.

Appointed by Governor DeSantis in 2020 to the 2nd District Court of Appeal, I was on the ballot in 2022 for merit retention and was successfully retained with 66.3% of the vote. In January 2023, Governor DeSantis changed my commission from the 2nd DCA to the new 6th DCA pursuant to the legislative directive.

24. If you have previously submitted a questionnaire or application to this or any other judicial nominating commission, please give the name(s) of the commission, the approximate date(s) of each submission, and indicate if your name was certified to the Governor's Office for consideration.

I have submitted applications for the following positions:

Florida Supreme Court, October 2018; Second District Court of Appeal in September 2014, January 2015, February 2016, November 2018, and June 2020; and the US District Court, Middle District of Florida in December 2017 and November 2019.

I was interviewed by the White House Counsel's office in 2019 and was certified to the Governor and appointed to the Second DCA in 2020.

- **25.** List any prior quasi-judicial service, including the agency or entity, dates of service, position(s) held, and a brief description of the issues you heard.
- 26. If you have prior judicial or quasi-judicial experience, please list the following information:
 - (i) the names, phone numbers and addresses of six attorneys who appeared before you on matters of substance;

Brian Haas, State Attorney, 255 N. Broadway Avenue, Bartow, FL 33830, 863.534.4864; bhaas@SAO10.com

Keith Miller, Boswell and Dunlap, 245 S. Central Avenue, Bartow, FL, 33830, 863.617.7336; KDM@bosdun.com

Judge Jennifer Swenson, formerly Assistant State Attorney, P.O. Box 9000, Bartow, FL 33830-9000 (mobile number provided with permission for committee to call-727.692.8754); jswenson@jud10.flcourts.org

Pete Sternlicht, Assistant State Attorney, 255 N. Broadway Ave., Bartow, FL 33830 863.534.4864; psternlicht@SAO10.com

Judge Melissa Gravitt, formerly Assistant State Attorney, P.O. Box 9000, Bartow, Florida 33830-9000 (mobile number provided with permission for committee to call-863.698.6979; mgravitt@jud10.flcourts.org

Nick Zbrzeznj, Southern Atlantic Law Group, PLLC, 520 6th St. NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881, 863.656.6672; Nick@Southernatlanticlaw.com: (Former Assistant State Attorney).

(ii) the approximate number and nature of the cases you handled during your tenure;

Tenth Circuit Family Division (2007-09)

Responsible for hundreds of hearings on divorces, modifications, custody disputes, domestic violence injunctions each month.

Tenth Circuit Felony Division (2009-2011, 2013-2016) Average case load 450-500 cases. Approx. 60-80 new cases per month.

Tenth Circuit Violation of Probation Division (2011-13)

I handled all Violation of Probation cases, all fugitive cases, and 4 Drug Courts- DUI, Adult Drug Court, Juvenile Drug Court and Post-adjuciation Drug Court. Pending VOP cases average range would be 400-600 cases. Drug court cases will range from 300-400 cases. I continued as the felony drug court judge for 18 months after I returned to a felony division in 2013, while handling a full felony division workload,.

Tenth Circuit Probate/Guardianship Division (2017-2020). As the only judge in the circuit who handled these matters full-time, I managed the entire case load of approximately 4000 cases.

Second District Court of Appeal/Sixth District Court of Appeal:

Each month I have been assigned between 15-25 cases as a panel member, in addition to dozens of motions and petitions each month.

- (iii) the citations of any published opinions;
 - In reviewing Westlaw, there are over 500 cases reported out of the thousands that I have handled. There are approximately 35 that were not affirmed for various reasons, and fewer than 10 that were reversed. Many of those were remanded for clarification of sentencing or evidentiary issues beyond the court's control.
- (iv) descriptions of the five most significant cases you have tried or heard, identifying the citation or style, attorneys involved, dates of the case, and the reason you believe these cases to be significant.

I am including significant cases from my experience as a trial judge. As an appellate judge, I have handled many significant cases, some of which are still on appeal or are issues likely to come before the court again and I do not wish to highlight any cases as being more significant than others.

State v. Rico Cielo; CF08-5070; 37 So.3d 857 2010

Drug Trafficking and Aggrevated Fleeing to Elude; Guilty Verdict; Allen Smith for Defendant, Pete Sternlicht for the State. A major methanphetamine dealer was apprehended, convicted and sentenced to 45 years in prison.

State v. Jodi Vinson, CF09-6432, 106 So.3d 18 (2013) and 175 So.3d 806 (2015) High profile case of child pornography and sexual promotion by mother with her two young girls. Guilty Verdict; sentenced to 60 years; Vince Trimarco for Defendant, Victoria Avalon for the State

State v. Ricky Bailey, CF09-6211, 109 So.3d 790 (2013).

Boyfriend of Jodi Vinson; 5 counts of sexual battery under 12; multiple counts lewd molestation, promotion and possession of child pornography. Guilty Verdict; multiple life sentences consecutive to 60 years on other counts; Bob Mack for the Defendant, Mark Levine for the State. These were both extremely difficult cases because of the age of the victims -- starting with getting jurors willing to sit through the subject matter involving their mother and her boyfriend.

State v. Michael Hagan, CF12-1265, 193 So.3d 1008 (2016);

2nd degree murder of girlfriend; Guilty Verdict; sentenced to life; Julia Williamson for Defendant, Pete Sternlicht for the State. High profile case where defendant's defense was that it was an accidental shooting.

State v. Phil Luna, CF12-4889, 252 So.3d 1196 (2019); 139 S.Ct 1270 (2019); 2023 WL 2456510 (M.D. Florida, 2023).

NASA Engineer from California came to Florida on business and was charged with attempted sex battery on child under 12; traveling to meet minor. Many unique evidentiary issues outlined in recently issued federal court decision. Guilty Verdict; Sentenced to 17 years Daniel Daly for Defendant, Amy Smith for the State.

27. Provide citations and a brief summary of all of your orders or opinions where your decision was 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, attach copies of the opinions.

In reviewing Westlaw, there are approx. 500 cases reported out of the thousands that I have handled. There are approximately 35 that were not affirmed for various reasons, and fewer than 10 that were reversed. Many of those were remanded for clarification of sentencing or evidentiary issues beyond the court's control.

28. 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, attach copies of the opinions.

As an appellate judge, I have handled many significant cases, some of which are still on appeal or are issues likely to come before the court again and I do not wish to highlight any cases as being more significant than others.

29. Has a complaint about you ever been made to the Judicial Qualifications Commission? If so, give the date, describe the complaint, whether or not there was a finding of probable cause, whether or not you have appeared before the Commission, and its resolution.

We are not told about complaints filed with the JQC unless probable cause is found. I have learned that almost every circuit judge has complaints routinely filed against them by inmates or other disgruntled individuals. I have never been noticed of a complaint, which means probable cause has never been found.

In addition to filing an unsuccessful lawsuit against me in 2006, the opponent in my judicial race filed a JQC claim even though I had not yet been elected. It was dismissed and they informed him they had no authority over the matter and suggested the Florida Ethics Commission would be the appropriate venue for any such complaint. He filed there as well, and it was also dismissed with no probable cause being found. He initially asked to have cases in front of me re-assigned but has since revoked that request and he later appeared before me in cases and we have no ongoing concerns regarding this history.

30. Have you ever held an attorney in contempt? If so, for each instance state the name of the attorney, case style for the matter in question, approximate date and describe the circumstances.

No.

31. Have you ever held or been a candidate for any other public office? If so, state the office, location, dates of service or candidacy, and any election results.

Florida House of Representatives, District 64, which encompassed most of north Polk County including the greater Lakeland area. Elected in 2002 and re-elected in 2004 for two-year terms.

NON-LEGAL BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT

32. If you are now an officer, director, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise, state the name of such enterprise, the nature of the business, the nature of your duties, and whether you intend to resign such position immediately upon your appointment or election to judicial office.

Only closely-held LLC's for personal real estate and investment holdings set forth in my financial statement, and civic organizations serving our community as permitted under the judicial canons. There are no requirements to resign such voluntary positions or to divest myself of these assets but I would do so if it ever created a conflict with my obligations on the court.

33. Since being admitted to the Bar, have you ever engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law? If so, explain and provide dates. If you received any compensation of any kind outside the practice of law during this time, please list the amount of compensation received.

The Florida House of Representatives (approx. \$29,000 per year) and the real estate LLCs referenced on my financial statement/Form 6 over the years (no compensation other than return on investments through rents and subsequent sale of some of the properties.)

Since law school, I served in several corporations as general counsel but was an active part of the management team. I served as Asst. General Counsel for the W.S. Badcock Corp., managing the litigation and bankruptcy departments and traveled throughout the Southeast as part of the management team. As General Counsel for Richland Towers and Richland Properties, I was also involved in both legal and management roles. My salary included my compensation for both legal and management contributions.

I have been involved in numerous investments and businesses since being admitted to the Bar including those listed on my financial statement and annual ethics disclosures. Except as included on such disclosures, I no longer have an interest in the investments.

The entities are Rustic Properties, LLC; Rustic Lodge, LLC; Polk Premier Properties, LLC; WWJD Properties, LLC; JKS Investments of Central Florida, LLC; Bartow Studio Apartments, LLC; Polk Title Company, LLC; Easton Star Properties, LLC; John K. Stargel, P.A.; Green Star Properties, LLC; Shelby, Medina and Stargel, P.A.; SMS Properties, LLC; and Pennant Fever Sports Collectibles and Capitol Baseball Card Company (partnership).

POSSIBLE BIAS OR PREJUDICE

34. The Commission is interested in knowing if there are certain types of cases, groups of entities, or extended relationships or associations which would limit the cases for which you could sit as the presiding judge. Please list all types or classifications of cases or litigants for which you, as a general proposition, believe it would be difficult for you to sit as the presiding judge. Indicate the reason for each situation as to why you believe you might be in conflict. If you have prior judicial experience, describe the types of cases from which you have recused yourself.

There are no specific types of cases, groups or extended relationships or associations that would limit cases on which I could sit. The only cases I know I would have to recuse myself from are those I have handled as a judge, matters involving former employers or close friends, family business entities for which I have a financial interest, and organizations for which I have served on the board as listed herein.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

35. List the titles, publishers, and dates of any books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published materials you have written or edited, including materials published only on the Internet. Attach a copy of each listed or provide a URL at which a copy can be accessed.

Justice: Fair and Accessible to All The Long Range Strategic Plan for the Florida Judicial Branch 2016-2021, (2016), Published by the Office of State Courts Administrator, (Commission Member, assisted with drafting and editing)

Florida's Fiscal Future: Balancing Needs & Taxes; (1991); Published by Florida Tax and Budget Reform Commission (Authored portions and edited throughout)

A Program for Reform of Florida Government, (1992), Published by the Florida Tax and Budget Reform Commission (Authored portions and edited throughout)

36. List any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed to the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. Provide the name of the entity, the date published, and a summary of the document. To the extent you have the document, please attach a copy or provide a URL at which a copy can be accessed.

See answer to #35.

My work on the Constitutional Revision Commission resulted in ballot questions on the statewide ballot in 2018.

There were reports from my service on the Judicial e-filing Workgroup, the Due Process Review Workgroup, and the Workgroup on the Implementation of the Sixth District Court of Appeal which were all published to the Supreme Court.

I also sponsored numerous bills and amendments during my service in the legislature which can be found on the Florida House of Representatives website.

37. List any speeches or talks you have delivered, including commencement speeches, remarks, interviews, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place they were delivered, the sponsor of the presentation, and a summary of the presentation. If there are any readily available press reports, a transcript or recording, please attach a copy or provide a URL at which a copy can be accessed.

Since becoming a judge, I have given many speeches to schools and civic organizations (Kiwanis, Rotary, churches and alcohol and drug recovery organizations) generally about the role of the judiciary, and more specifically to the community about the drug court program. I presented before the Executive Committee of the Florida Constitutional Revision Commission on the Constitutional history and background of the state budget process. I have participated in the Justice Teaching initiative and taught in several schools about the importance of the court system. I have been a guest lecturer at Southeastern University regarding the US Constitution and the role of the judiciary. I was the commencement speaker at Polk State Collegiate High School graduation, Calvary Christian Academy graduation, and several drug court and other recovery program graduations which were all motivational in nature. I was the guest speaker at several Eagle Scout ceremonies (Lakeland, Plant City) which were also motivational in nature. I spoke at the Polk County Estate Planning Council on transitions in the legal profession. See 49(b) for instructional lectures with the Conference of Circuit Judges.

As a legislator, I gave numerous speeches on varying topics, generally related to legislation that was pending or that had passed. I was Chairman of the Education Choice and Innovation Committee and Vice-chair of the Finance and Tax Committee so I was asked to give numerous speeches on those topics to various organizations.

I have given several speeches and sat on panels about my role as an appointed Commissioner on the Florida Constitutional Revision Commission. I have discussed the process and the proposals that were placed on the ballot. These presentations were all in an educational capacity, not an advocacy capacity.

38. Have you ever taught a course at an institution of higher education or a bar association? If so, provide the course title, a description of the course subject matter, the institution at which you taught, and the dates of teaching. If you have a syllabus for each course, please provide.

2018 Circuit Judges Conference: Lead presenter on plenary session panel presentation: The Status of Due Process in the State Court System. The presentation included a presentation on expert witnesses, interpreting standards and digital remote interpreting. Panel members included Judge Fred Lauten and Judge Elizabeth Metzger.

2015 and 2016 College of Advanced Judicial Studies: Instructed a two-day course with Judge (now Attorney General) Ashley Moody, Chief Judge Ron Ficarrotta, and Judge Raaj Singhal on a course entitled: Survivor: Judge v. Jury. The course included trial and jury issues from jury selection through post-trial proceedings. We received excellent reviews and were asked to teach the course again the following year...

2012 Circuit Judges' Conference- Panel presentation: Legislative Update; Effective Communication with the Legislative and Executive Branch.

39. List any fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement. Include the date received and the presenting entity or organization.

University of Tampa Presidential Scholar (4 years)

Selected as University Diplomat (University of Tampa)

High School Class Salutatorian;

National Honor Society (HS)

Freshman Legislator of the Year, Florida Retail Federation (2003);

Champion for Business Award, Florida Chamber of Commerce (2004 and 2005);

numerous legislative appreciation awards or recognitions from organizations such as the Pace Center for Girls, Florida Chamber of Commerce, and various education organizations.

Nominated and appointed by the Governor of Kentucky into the Honorary Order of Kentucky Colonels (2015).

40. Do you have a Martindale-Hubbell rating? If so, what is it and when was it earned? No.

41. List all bar associations, legal, and judicial-related committees of which you are or have been a member. For each, please provide dates of membership or participation. Also, for each indicate any office you have held and the dates of office.

Florida Conference of Appellate Judges (2020-present)

Florida Conference of Circuit Judges (2007-2020);

Executive Committee member of the Conference of Circuit Judges (2009-2020), Chair of the Legislative Committee 2009-2020)

Trial Court Budget Commission (2013-2020)

Budget Management Subcommittee (2015-2020; served as Chair)

Florida Constitutional Revision Commission- (2017-2018)

Due Process Review Committee (2015-2020; servef as Co-Chair) (appointed to this committee of the Trial Court Budget Commission and the Trial Court Performance and Accountability Commission to review due process procedures and costs throughout the court system)

Judicial Branch Long Range Strategic Planning Workgroup (2014-2016) (appointed by Justice Labarga to this ten member committee to map out the judicial branch strategic plan for 2016-2022. Judge Jonathon Gerber of the 4th DCA was the chair)

Judicial E-filing Workgroup (appointed by Justice Labarga) (2018-2020)

Workgroup for the Implementation of the Sixth District Court of Appeal (2022-23)

Florida Bar, Rules of Judicial Administration (2010-2013)

Tenth Judicial Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission (2001-2006)

Florida Bar, Small Claims Rules Committee (approx. 1994-1999, served as chair 1999)

Federalist Society- FSU Law school (1989-1991); One of the founding members of the FSU law school chapter. Attended student symposium in Washington, D.C. Remained member until approx. 1993. Attended annual statewide conferences over the past five years in Florida.

Christian Legal Society (1993-1999)

American Bar Association (1992- approx. 1996)

42. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in the previous question to which you belong, or to which you have belonged since graduating law school. For each, please provide dates of membership or participation and indicate any office you have held and the dates of office.

Bartow Kiwanis club (approx. 20 years)
Camp Gilead, Polk City, FL Board of Directors (over 25 years)(Chairman 2009-2014)
Polk Education Foundation (2007-present)

Noah's Ark of Florida (2006-2009)
The Schools of McKeel Academy, board member (2008-2016)
Heritage Baptist Church (member since 1993; served as deacon for approximately 15 years)
CBM Ministries National Board (2008-2011)

- **43.** Do you now or have you ever belonged to a club or organization that in practice or policy restricts (or restricted during the time of your membership) its membership on the basis of race, religion (other than a church, synagogue, mosque or other religious institution), national origin, or sex (other than an educational institution, fraternity or sorority)? If so, state the name and nature of the club(s) or organization(s), relevant policies and practices and whether you intend to continue as a member if you are selected to serve on the bench. No.
- **44.** Please describe any significant pro bono legal work you have done in the past 10 years, giving dates of service.

None since becoming a judge because of the prohibition against such representation but I do sit on some community boards as permitted. Before I was a judge, I provided pro-bono work in civil and small claims cases to those who could not afford representation, as well as various charitable and not-for-profit organizations.

45. Please describe any hobbies or other vocational interests.

For most of our adult lives, my wife Kelli and I have been focused on our five children and involvement in family, church, school and community activities, as well as our professional and public service endeavors.

Since our youngest daughter entered college (and has now graduated college), we have been traveling more and our goal has been to take at least one international trip each year. Our travels have taken us to 5 continents and over 25 countries, with many more on our list to visit. I enjoy historical excursions, like walking up Utah Beach with my youngest daughter on the morning of the 75th anniversary of D-day. In addition, I have been working with Little Lambs International over the past few years and have taken 4 trips to Guatemala to help on projects at their orphanage there. I also try to visit courthouses when I can to learn about the legal systems abroad. These travels and experiences have made me a better judge in many ways and highlighted the unique nature of our democratic republic and the rights we hold so dearly as set forth in the United States and Florida Constitutions. It has reenforced my commitment to upholding the rule of law.

I also enjoy reading, watching movies and sports, playing golf (although my skills are lacking), and attending Tampa Bay Lightning games.

- **46.** Please state whether you have served or currently serve in the military, including your dates of service, branch, highest rank, and type of discharge. No.
- **47.** Please provide links to all social media and blog accounts you currently maintain, including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.



FAMILY BACKGROUND

48. Please state your current marital status. If you are currently married, please list your spouse's name, current occupation, including employer, and the date of the marriage. If you have ever been divorced, please state for each former spouse their name, current address, current telephone number, the date and place of the divorce and court and case number information.

Kelli Stargel, married February 11, 1984. Employed by Florida Polytechnic University as their Senior Advisor for Strategic Relationships. Also manages our family property business.

49. If you have children, please list their names and ages. If your children are over 18 years of age, please list their current occupation, residential address, and a current telephone number.

Rebekah	38	Business Owner	-	
		'		
Amand	37	Church		
7 Hiland				
		employee		
Robert	31	Administrator		
Mary	29	Unknown		
Laura	26	Government		
		Employee		
		Employee		

CRIMINAL AND MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS

- **50.** Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, including adjudications of guilt withheld? If so, please list and provide the charges, case style, date of conviction, and terms of any sentence imposed, including whether you have completed those terms. No.
- **51.** Have you ever pled nolo contendere or guilty to a crime which is a felony or misdemeanor, including adjudications of guilt withheld? If so, please list and provide the charges, case style, date of conviction, and terms of any sentence imposed, including whether you have completed those terms. No.
- **52.** Have you ever been arrested, regardless of whether charges were filed? If so, please list and provide sufficient details surrounding the arrest, the approximate date and jurisdiction. No.
- **53.** Have you ever been a party to a lawsuit, either as the plaintiff, defendant, petitioner, or respondent? If so, please supply the case style, jurisdiction/county in which the lawsuit was filed, case number, your status in the case, and describe the nature and disposition of the matter.

Lamplighter v. John and Kelli Stargel, Hillsborough County, 86-0423.

When we sold our first home the purchaser didn't get approved with the association, and didn't pay lot rent. We repossessed the mobile home and paid judgment for their lot rent. Satisfied judgment including attorney fees on Jan 21, 1987.

 $City\ of\ Tallahassee\ v.\ Penrod,\ et\ al,\ Leon\ County,\ 2000\ CA\ 001553.$

Eminent domain action on rental property. Settled

Nance v. John and Kelli Stargel, Hillsborough County, 06CA-7354.

My wife was in an auto accident and they filed suit. State Farm settled the case.

Nathanial White v. Sue White, Sec. of State and John Stargel, Leon County 37-2006 CA 001956.

Lawsuit over qualifying for circuit judge position. Disposed by Judge and upheld by appellate court in 1D07-585.

John Stargel v. Home Buyers Warranty Corporation; Polk County, 53-08-CC-002719

Suit based on denial of home warranty. Settled

John and Kelli Stargel o/b/o minor child Mary Hannah Stargel v. State Farm, Polk County, 53-2011- CA-001394.

Serious auto accident involving injury to my daughter; A guardianship case was also set up for the proceeds until she reached 18. Settled

Davis v. John Stargel, 67 So. 3d 198, 2011 WL 2740930 Convicted defendant filed personal lawsuit against judge in his case; dismissed and unsuccessfully appealed.

JP Morgan Chase, Inc. v. Charles and Cynthia Stargel, 2013 CA-1752, Hillsborough County, Erroneously named personally as defendant when I had signed as attorney-in-fact under a Power of Attorney for my disabled father; Dismissed as party.

Misc. tenant evictions on properties owned by our family and associated businesses in Polk, Pasco and Leon Counties. I do not have all the case numbers.

I was named personally in several lawsuits against W.S. Badcock and Richland while I was serving as general counsel and/or as an officer. I do not have the case numbers. These were handled by insurance counsel and the suit against employees in their individual capacities were always dismissed.

- **54.** To your knowledge, has there ever been a complaint made or filed alleging malpractice as a result of action or inaction on your part? No.
- **55.** To the extent you are aware, have you or your professional liability carrier ever settled a claim against you for professional malpractice? If so, give particulars, including the name of the client(s), approximate dates, nature of the claims, the disposition and any amounts involved. No
- **56.** Has there ever been a finding of probable cause or other citation issued against you or are you presently under investigation for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by any court, administrative agency, bar association, or other professional group. If so, provide the particulars of each finding or investigation. No.
- **57.** To your knowledge, within the last ten years, have any of your current or former co-workers, subordinates, supervisors, customers, clients, or the like, ever filed a formal complaint or accusation of misconduct including, but not limited to, any allegations involving sexual harassment, creating a hostile work environment or conditions, or discriminatory behavior

- against you with any regulatory or investigatory agency or with your employer? If so, please state the date of complaint or accusation, specifics surrounding the complaint or accusation, and the resolution or disposition. No.
- **58.** Are you currently the subject of an investigation which could result in civil, administrative, or criminal action against you? If yes, please state the nature of the investigation, the agency conducting the investigation, and the expected completion date of the investigation. No.
- **59.** Have you ever filed a personal petition in bankruptcy or has a petition in bankruptcy been filed against you, this includes any corporation or business entity that you were involved with? If so, please provide the case style, case number, approximate date of disposition, and any relevant details surrounding the bankruptcy. No.
- **60.** In the past ten years, have you been subject to or threatened with eviction proceedings? If yes, please explain. No.
- **61.** Please explain whether you have complied with all legally required tax return filings. To the extent you have ever had to pay a tax penalty or a tax lien was filed against you, please explain giving the date, the amounts, disposition, and current status. Yes.

HEALTH

- **62.** Are you currently addicted to or dependent upon the use of narcotics, drugs, or alcohol? No.
- 63. During the last ten years have you been hospitalized or have you consulted a professional or have you received treatment or a diagnosis from a professional for any of the following: Kleptomania, Pathological or Compulsive Gambling, Pedophilia, Exhibitionism or Voyeurism? If your answer is yes, please direct each such professional, hospital and other facility to furnish the Chairperson of the Commission any information the Commission may request with respect to any such hospitalization, consultation, treatment or diagnosis. ["Professional" includes a Physician, Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Psychotherapist or Mental Health Counselor.] Please describe such treatment or diagnosis. No.
- **64.** In the past ten years have any of the following occurred to you which would interfere with your ability to work in a competent and professional manner: experiencing periods of no sleep for two or three nights, experiencing periods of hyperactivity, spending money profusely with extremely poor judgment, suffering from extreme loss of appetite, issuing checks without sufficient funds, defaulting on a loan, experiencing frequent mood swings, uncontrollable tiredness, falling asleep without warning in the middle of an activity. If yes, please explain. No.
- **65.** Do you currently have a physical or mental impairment which in any way limits your ability or fitness to properly exercise your duties as a member of the Judiciary in a competent and professional manner? If yes please explain the limitation or impairment and any treatment, program or counseling sought or prescribed. No.

- **66.** During the last ten years, have you ever been declared legally incompetent or have you or your property been placed under any guardianship, conservatorship or committee? If yes, provide full details as to court, date, and circumstances. No.
- **67.** During the last ten years, have you unlawfully used controlled substances, narcotic drugs, or dangerous drugs as defined by Federal <u>or</u> State laws? If your answer is "Yes," explain in detail. (Unlawful use includes the use of one or more drugs and/or the unlawful possession or distribution of drugs. It does not include the use of drugs taken under supervision of a licensed health care professional or other uses authorized by Federal <u>or</u> State law provisions.) No.
- **68.** In the past ten years, have you ever been reprimanded, demoted, disciplined, placed on probation, suspended, cautioned, or terminated by an employer as result of your alleged consumption of alcohol, prescription drugs, or illegal drugs? If so, please state the circumstances under which such action was taken, the name(s) of any persons who took such action, and the background and resolution of such action. No.
- 69. Have you ever refused to submit to a test to determine whether you had consumed and/or were under the influence of alcohol or drugs? If so, please state the date you were requested to submit to such a test, the type of test required, the name of the entity requesting that you submit to the test, the outcome of your refusal, and the reason why you refused to submit to such a test. No.
- **70.** In the past ten years, have you suffered memory loss or impaired judgment for any reason? If so, please explain in full. No.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

71. Describe any additional education or experiences you have which could assist you in holding judicial office.

As you have read, I have been involved in multiple committees and activities for the bar, the judicial conferences, and the branch. I am actively involved not only in the legal aspects of the judicial branch, but also in the administrative aspects which are critical to the efficient operation of the branch. The operation the Florida Court System is equivalent to the operation of a major corporation with approximately a half-billion-dollar annual budget, thousands of employees, and the necessity of working together with your strategic partners—in our case, those are the clerks, the Florida Bar, state attorneys, public defenders, and law enforcement—in order to provide efficient services to our end-users in the system. I will continue to use my background and experience when appropriate to help our judicial branch continue as a national leader in the efficient operation of our court system.

I believe my years of experience on the bench, serving in the legislature, and in private practice will continue to assist me in fulfilling my obligations on the bench. While each case is unique, understanding the governmental systems and the operation of the different divisions in which I have worked as a judge will assist in many cases which will come before me.

72. Explain the particular contribution you believe your selection would bring to this position and provide any additional information you feel would be helpful to the Commission and Governor in evaluating your application.

The first contribution I would bring to this position is to fulfill my duties to uphold the State and Federal Constitutions through proper application of the rule of law. Further, I will exercise judicial restraint by deferring to the legislative and executive branches to make the laws, while the courts will interpret the laws and protect the rights of our citizens as set forth in our Constitution and statutes. By applying these principles, the citizens of Florida will be able to more effectively determine the future of their state through their elected lawmakers without unmerited intervention by the judicial branch.

I have a diverse background including my legal practice in law firms, corporate counsel, and legislative and government settings, as well as over thirteen years as a circuit judge and three years as an appellate judge. This diverse experience gives me a unique outlook and understanding of the legal system. There are many situations that may not be easily understood by reading a transcript but is more clear when coupled with the correlating experience of managing a courtroom, including all the moving parts that go into a successful trial.

Finally, I am a hard worker and a good listener. I will work hard to ensure that each citizen gets the justice their case merits from our court system. I believe each individual's value system is largely determined by the sum of their experiences in life. A judge or justice will not share all the life experiences of those who appear before them, but we can listen to them and treat every person with the respect and dignity they deserve, even if we cannot give them the result they desire. I didn't realize just how important these life experiences can be until I experienced first-hand the difference it can make. Experience can be the difference between someone being a "good judge" or a "great judge."

My father was raised on a family farm with 12 children. My mother is the daughter of a first-generation American whose family came to Tampa from Cuba. My father worked in a factory as a mechanic and my mother was a teacher aide. My parents and grandparents taught me and my brothers the values that were instilled in them-- love of God, family, and country, and the importance of working hard, obtaining an education, and respecting authority. Very few in our family ever went to college, and my older brother and I were the first to obtain graduate degrees.

I grew up in Tampa, was married to my wife Kelli while I was in college, and we have now been married for 39 years. She is a sixth-generation Floridian and her family has never lived anywhere else. I worked full-time to be able to finish college and started law school when my oldest daughters were two and four. We raised 5 children who all attended college, several served in the military, and our youngest recently completed her second masters degree from the University of South Florida.

While I cannot go into all the specifics here, I believe the hardships and life experiences encountered by my family as I grew up, and by me and my wife as we raised a large family, are a critical part of who I am and enhance my qualifications to hold judicial office. I didn't know that while I was raising 5 children and going through the struggles that each of them would have, that I was actually being trained to be a compassionate and fair judge during my first assignment in the family division.

When my father was wrongfully arrested for attempted kidnapping shortly before I started law school, it ripped our family apart. My parents had to take out a mortgage to pay the bond and legal bills. Thankfully, the truth finally came out many months later that the child wasn't even in the area at the time of the alleged incident, and the state's star witness who made up the accusations was wanted for crimes in another state. The judge reprimanded the state for not disclosing this information sooner and dismissed the case-- but at great personal cost to my parents. I didn't know at the time that I was being taught many lessons through that experience-- the importance of due process; that police do not always behave in a respectful manner; the impact that being charged

with a crime has on an innocent individual; and probably most importantly, I learned that just because justice prevails in a case, it doesn't mean that it will not have lasting effects on the parties long after they leave my courtroom.

After that experience, my father was never the same. After the story made the front page of the papers, it affected his work relationships and families we knew well wouldn't let their kids play with my little brothers. When the case was dismissed a few months later, we learned that false allegations can easily make the front page of the papers, but dismissal of those same allegations don't make the paper at all. Dad started drinking heavily and within a few years he lost his job of over 20 years, their house was foreclosed, and my parents separated. My younger brothers moved to live with my older brother who was an army doctor and I was introduced to the challenges in the guardianship system. After that, dad worked odd jobs but mostly to pay for his drinking and rent. We put him through several rehab centers. I learned a lot about addiction, about AA, and about the impact of addiction on families. I was practicing law by this point and we tried to help him, but his alcoholism drove him to homelessness.

I didn't realize at the time that these life lessons were preparing me to have a greater understanding of the individuals and their families who would come before me during the 3 years I presided over our circuit's Drug Court program. I was also able to draw upon these experiences during the 7 years I was in a felony division dealing with individuals with mental health problems, dependency problems and the related crimes,

Finally, a few years later we located Dad in a group home in Virginia. We brought him back to Florida and made arrangements for him to get his social security checks and live in an assisted living facility near us. Mom retired and took care of Dad and my grandmother full-time. He had alcohol-induced dementia and I started learning about memory disorders, as well as learning about caregiving for the elderly and the toll it takes on people. I also was introduced to the myriad of rules and regulations that surround Medicare and eventually Medicaid. These experiences all prepared me for my latest assignment in the Probate and Guardianship Division. Dad lived 14 years after we rescued him from the streets and was able to meet his great-grandchildren before he died.

I share these life experiences because I did not appreciate the many ways life experience prepared me to be a better judge. I didn't realize how much over 13 years experience as a Circuit Judge prepared me to be a better appellate judge until I was there. These experiences do not impact decisions on the appellate bench in the same way they do when discretion and discernment is applied by trial court judges. They do, however, drive my desire to deliver justice in a fair, effective and efficient manner to the citizens of Florida.

REFERENCES

- **73.** List the names, addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of ten persons who are in a position to comment on your qualifications for a judicial position and of whom inquiry may be made by the Commission and the Governor.
 - 1) Justice Charles Canady, 500 South Duval Street, Tallahassee, Fl 32399
 - 2) Alan Lawson, Lawson Huck Gonzalez, 215 S. Monroe St, Suite 320, Tallahassee, FL 32301; 850.825.4334;
 - 3) Judge Clayton Roberts, First District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32311
 - 4) Judge Jonathon Gerber Fourth District Court of Appeal, 1525 Palm Beach Lake Blvd.
 - 5) Judge Remaldo Ojeda, Tenth Judicial Circuit 255 N. Broadway Ave., Bartow, FL 33831

- 6) Judge Olin W. Shinholser (retired), 4501 Selah Road, Sebring, FL 33875
- 7) Chief Judge Mark Mahon, Fourth Judicial Circuit, 501 W. Adams St., Jacksonville, FL 32202
- 8) Wogan S. Badcock III, Badcock Furniture & More, P.O. Box 232 Mulberry, FL 33860, 863.425.4921; wogieiii@badcock.com
- 9) Barney Barnett, Publix Supermarkets, 3300 Publix Corporate Parkway, Lakeland, FL 33811 863.688.7407;
- 10) Frank Williams, Assistant US Attorney, 401 SE 1st Avenue, Suite 211, Gainesville, FL 32601

CERTIFICATE

I have read the foregoing questions carefully and have answered them truthfully, fully and completely. I hereby waive notice by and authorize The Florida Bar or any of its committees, educational and other institutions, the Judicial Qualifications Commission, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners or any judicial or professional disciplinary or supervisory body or commission, any references furnished by me, employers, business and professional associates, all governmental agencies and instrumentalities and all consumer and credit reporting agencies to release to the respective Judicial Nominating Commission and Office of the Governor any information, files, records or credit reports requested by the commission in connection with any consideration of me as possible nominee for appointment to judicial office. Information relating to any Florida Bar disciplinary proceedings is to be made available in accordance with Rule 3-7.1(1), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. I recognize and agree that, pursuant to the Florida Constitution and the Uniform Rules of this commission, the contents of this questionnaire and other information received from or concerning me, and all interviews and proceedings of the commission, except for deliberations by the commission, shall be open to the public.

Further, I stipulate I have read and understand the requirements of the Florida Code of Judicial Conduct.

Dated this_	17th	day of	April	, 20 <u>23</u>	<u>.</u>

John K. Stargel
Printed Name

(Pursuant to Section 119.071(4)(d)(1), F.S.), . . . The home addresses and telephone numbers of justices of the Supreme Court, district court of appeal judges, circuit court judges, and county court judges; the home addresses, telephone numbers, and places of employment of the spouses and children of justices and judges; and the names and

locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of justices and judges are exempt from the provisions of subsection (1), dealing with public records.

FINANCIAL HISTORY

1. State the amount of gross income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (before deducting expenses and taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.

Current Year-To-Date: 50,500

Last Three Years: 106,688 174,640 192,105

2. State the amount of net income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (after deducting expenses but not taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.

Current Year-To-Date: 50,500

Last Three Years: 160,688 174,640 192,105

3. State the gross amount of income or loses incurred (before deducting expenses or taxes) you have earned in the preceding three years on a year by year basis from all sources other than the practice of law, and generally describe the source of such income or losses.

Current Year-To-Date: 11,000 appx.

Last Three Years: 11,107 16,642 258,453

Rental Real Estate-leasing and sales revenue

4. State the amount you have earned in the preceding three years on a year by year basis from all sources other than the practice of law, and generally describe the source of such income or losses.

Current Year-To-Date: 11,000 appx.

Last Three Years: 11,107 16,642 258,453

5. State the amount of net income you have earned or losses incurred (after deducting expenses) from all sources other than the practice of law for the preceding three-year period on a year by year basis, and generally describe the sources of such income or losses.

Current Year-To-Date: 11,000 appx.

Last Three Years: 11,107 16,642 258,453

JUDICIAL APPLICATION DATA RECORD

The judicial application shall include a separate page asking applicants to identify their race, ethnicity and gender. Completion of this page shall be optional, and the page shall include an explanation that the information is requested for data collection purposes in order to assess and promote diversity in the judiciary. The chair of the Commission shall forward all such completed pages, along with the names of the nominees to the JNC Coordinator in the Governor's Office (pursuant to JNC Uniform Rule of Procedure).

	(Please Type or Print)
Date: <u>4/17/2023</u> JNC Submitting To: <u>Florida</u>	Supreme Court
Name (please print): Current Occupation: DCA Judge Telephone Number:863.409.196	
Gender (check one):	Male Female White, non-Hispanic Hispanic Black American Indian/Alaskan Native Asian/Pacific Islander
County of Residence: Polk	

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (FCRA)

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) may obtain one or more consumer reports, including but not limited to credit reports, about you, for employment purposes as defined by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, including for determinations related to initial employment, reassignment, promotion, or other employment-related actions.

CONSUMER'S AUTHORIZATION FOR FDLE TO OBTAIN CONSUMER REPORT(S)

I have read and understand the above Disclosure. I authorize the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to obtain one or more consumer reports on me, for employment purposes, as described in the above Disclosure.

John K. Stargel

Printed Name of Applicant

Signature of Applicant

Date: <u>4/17/2023</u>