

### QUALIFICATIONS OF A MARYLAND JUDGE

The qualifications of a judge falls into two quite distinct categories: (1) legal and (2) professional and personal.

The Constitution of Maryland specifies those in the first category (Art. I, § 12; Art. IV, § 2). The legal qualifications for appointed judges are:

1. U.S. and Maryland citizenship.
2. Registration to vote in State elections at the time of appointment.
3. Residence in the State for at least five years.
4. Residence, for at least six months next preceding appointment, in the geographic area where the vacancy exists.
5. Age of at least 30 at the time of appointment.
6. Membership in the Maryland Bar.

The Constitution also speaks generally of the second category of qualifications, by providing that those selected for judgeships shall be lawyers "most distinguished for integrity, wisdom and sound legal knowledge."

The submission of this information is voluntary and will be kept confidential and used only for statistical reports.

I am a resident of Prince George's County/City

Race: White Asian or Pacific Islander  
~~xxxxxxx~~ Black (African-American) Hispanic  
American Indian or Alaskan Native

Sex: Male ~~xxxxxxx~~ Female

COURT FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING: Court of Appeals  
Court of Special Appeals  
Circuit Court  
~~xxxxxx~~ District Court

Are you currently employed, in a legal capacity, by government? Yes ~~xxxxxx~~ No (not as an employee). I do, however, have an independent county contract w/ the Prince Georges' Co. Dept. of Social Services.

If yes, please complete the following:

Federal State Local

Full-time Part-time

Agency Name: Not Applicable

**NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION  
(ONLY ONE COPY OF THIS PAGE IS NECESSARY)**

## CONFIDENTIAL PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE TRIAL COURTS

You are requested to provide the information called for in this questionnaire in complete detail.

Prince George's County District Court

Indicate the Court and the County for Which You Are Applying

<u>Kelsey</u>	<u>ShaRon</u>	<u>Marie</u> <u>Grayson</u>
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name

I would like correspondence concerning my application sent to  my home address  my work address

Are you a citizen of Maryland?  Yes  No

Are you registered to vote in state elections in Maryland?  Yes  No

What is the longest period during which you resided in Maryland continuously?

From: <u>May 23, 1992</u>	To: <u>Present</u>
Month/Day/Year	Month/Day/Year

Date and Place of Birth: <span style="background-color: #ccccff; padding: 2px 20px;"> </span>	<u>Washington, DC</u>
Month/Day/Year	City/State/Country

Are you a member of the Maryland Bar in good standing?  Yes  No

### NOTICE TO APPLICANTS FOR JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT

Neither a Commission nor the Secretariat (Administrative Office of the Courts) will publish the name of any individual who submits a personal data questionnaire to the Commission until after the closing date for the submission of questionnaires.

The personal data questionnaire that an applicant submits to a Commission is confidential. If you are nominated, the Secretariat (AOC) will forward a copy of your questionnaire to the Governor but (except as required by law) neither the Commission nor the Secretariat (AOC) will release the questionnaire to anyone else without your written permission. Therefore, if you wish to have your questionnaire released to a bar association or other organization, you must check the appropriate block(s) on page 2 and submit one additional copy of the questionnaire and writing samples for each organization to which it is to be sent.

If the Commission considers the information about you to be incomplete or otherwise inadequate for suitable evaluation of your qualifications, the Commission may ask you to provide, either in written form or by personal appearance, the additional information that the Commission considers appropriate to allow suitable evaluation.

Statements that you make to the Commission, personally or in documents submitted to the Commission, are subject to verification by any method that the Commission considers appropriate.

I authorize transmittal of a copy of this questionnaire to: *(check appropriate lines)*.

- J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association
- Maryland Defense Counsel, Inc. (For Appellate and Circuit Courts only)
- Maryland Hispanic Bar Association
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Bar Association of Maryland
- Maryland State Bar Association
- Monumental City Bar Association
- Women's Bar Association
- Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Maryland, Inc.
- Alliance of Black Women Attorneys of Maryland, Inc.
- Maryland Association for Justice, Inc.
- Maryland State's Attorneys' Association (For Appellate Courts only)
- Prince George's County Bar Association City/County Bar Association

Any Other \_\_\_\_\_  
*(See Maryland Lawyers' Manual under Local/Specialty Bar Associations – if you indicate an organization not listed in the Maryland Lawyers' Manual, please provide contact information including name and address)*

\* \* \* \* \*

I submit the following data to the Judicial Nominating Commission and understand that it is subject to verification by the Commission. I authorize any person or custodian of records, including, without limitation, the Commission on Judicial Disabilities, the Attorney Grievance Commission, the Clients' Protection Fund, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to release to the Commission any and all information, including criminal history record information, that may be available concerning me.

Should I be favorably considered, I will accept appointment to the Court indicated.

March 21, 2016  
Date of Application

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name of Applicant *(Signed)*

ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey  
Full Name of Applicant *(Printed)*

*NOTE: Please return an original and 17 copies of the completed personal data questionnaire, plus an additional copy for each organization to which you wish a copy to be sent. Applicants for Circuit and District Court vacancies must submit two writing samples with each questionnaire. The major portion of the writing samples and related research must be that of the applicant. If written documents are co-authored, please indicate which portion is attributable to another author. Send copies of all writing samples attached to each questionnaire.*

**Please remit to:**  
**Debra L. Kaminski or Connie Winkel**  
**Administrative Office of the Courts**  
**Human Resources Department**  
**Maryland Judicial Center**  
**580 Taylor Avenue, Building A, First Floor**  
**Annapolis, MD 21401**  
**(410) 260-1271/(410) 260-1275**  
**(800) 735-2258 - Maryland Relay Service (TT/Voice)**

**PERSONAL HISTORY**

- 1. List each name that you have used previously.

*ShaRon Marie Kelsey  
ShaRon Marie Grayson  
ShaRon Marie Grayson Kelsey  
ShaRon Marie Grayson-Kelsey*

- 2. Office Information

- a. List your office address, including zip code. Include the name of your law firm, if you are associated with one.

*The Kelsey Law Firm  
3034 Mitchellville Road  
Bowie, MD 20716*

- b. List your direct telephone number, including area code.

*(301) 390-9060*

- 3. Home Information

- a. List, with inclusive dates, your home address, including zip code, and each other place of residence since your admission to the Maryland Bar.

*[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
December 1992 – December 1998*

*[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
December 1998 - Present*

- b. List your home telephone number, including area code.

*[Redacted]*

- c. List your cell phone number, including area code.

*[Redacted]*

- d. List your email address(es).

- *Email addresses: [skelsey@kelseylaw.net](mailto:skelsey@kelseylaw.net); [skelsey@kelseyrealty.net](mailto:skelsey@kelseyrealty.net) ; [kelseylaw4@gmail.com](mailto:kelseylaw4@gmail.com) & [justforfun@kelseylaw.net](mailto:justforfun@kelseylaw.net)*

- 4. Citizenship

- a. Are you a U.S. Citizen? *Yes.*
- b. Are you a naturalized citizen? If so, give the date and place of naturalization. *No.*

5. Family Status:

- a. Are you married? If so, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name, including maiden name, if any, and occupation.

*Yes. May 16, 1992  
James Michael Kelsey  
Research Director for WHUR-FM Radio, Howard University*

- b. Have you been divorced? If so, give the name(s) of each former spouse.

*No.*

- c. Give the names of your children, if any, with age, address, and occupation of each.

*Sydney Nicole Kelsey, Age 20*

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

*Tutor/Aftercare employee  
Student – Howard University*

*Samantha Noel Kelsey, Age 18*

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

*(Permanent Address)  
Student – North Carolina A&T [Redacted]*

6. Have you had any military service? If so, provide the dates of service, the branch, the highest rank attained and the form of discharge or release.

*No.*

7. List any avocational interests and hobbies.

*Singing (alone) and reading medical mysteries and horror stories.*

## EDUCATION

8. For each college, graduate school, and law school you attended, list the names and addresses, the dates of attendance, and the degree awarded or, if no degree was awarded from that institution, the reason for leaving the college or school.

*Montgomery College*  
*Takoma Park, MD & Rockville, MD Campuses*

*7600 Takoma Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912*

*And*

*51 Mannakee St,  
Rockville, MD 20850*

*Major: Human Resources and Labor Relations  
Part-time evening student between 1979-1986  
Associate of Arts Degree (1986)*

*American Institute of Banking (Now American Bankers Association)*  
*Classes were held at various business office locations throughout the DC area*  
*Focus: Banking and Financial Management*  
*Part-time evening student (1981-1986)*  
*Received individual certificates of class completion (1981–1986)*

*Strayer University*  
*1133 15th St NW #200*  
*Washington, DC 20005*  
*Single Course: “ABC Shorthand” required to advance from secretary to executive secretary*  
*Certificate of completion (1985)*

*University of Maryland University College*  
*College Park, MD campus*  
*Current address: 1616 McCormick Drive*  
*Upper Marlboro, MD 20774*  
*As a Student:*  
*Business Administration & Banking and Financial Management*  
*Part-time evening student (1986-1988)*  
*Bachelor of Science Degree - Magna Cum Laude (1988)*  
*And as an Adjunct Professor:*  
*“Webtycho” On-line System – Distance Education Training (2004)*  
*Planning and Teaching Hybrid Courses (December, 2011)*

*Georgetown University Law Center*  
*600 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.*  
*Washington, DC 20001*  
*Legal Studies (1989–1992)*  
*Juris Doctorate (1992)*

9. State the significant activities in which you took part during the period of your attendance at college, graduate school and law school, giving dates of these activities and any offices or leadership positions you held.

*Montgomery College, 1980*

- *Cheerleader (1980)*
- *College Work Study Program "College of the Air"(1980)*

*University of Maryland University College (1982-1986)*

- *Worked with administration and testified before the Maryland Legislature to promote funding for returning adult students (1985-86)*
- *American Cancer Society - registered driver (registered 1985)*
- *Alpha Sigma Lambda - Honor Society (Inducted, 1986)*
- *March of Dimes Walk, Spring 1986*

*Georgetown University Law Center (1989-1992)*

- *Member, Black Law Students Association (1989-1992)*
- *Associate Editor, International Environmental Law Review (1989)*
- *General “teen girl” cast member (w/ one line solo) – Gilbert & Sullivan’s Bye Bye Birdie (1991)*
- *Summer Associate/Law Clerk, Koonz, McKenney, Johnson and Regan, (1990-1992)*

- *Tutor, Georgetown University Law Center Tutoring Program (1992)*
- *Rule 16 Attorney, Georgetown University Law Center Landlord Tenant Clinic – DC Superior Court (1992)*

10. Briefly describe your continuing legal/judicial education during the past five years.

- *Best Interest Child’s Counsel Training - Department of Human Resources (2010)*
- *Department of Social Service Local Counsel’s Training - Attorney General’s Office (2011)*
- *Child Abuse and Neglect (CANDO) Conference - Attorney General’s Office (2011)*
- *Top Ten Trial Techniques - Prince George’s County Bench Bar Meeting (2012)*
- *Nuts and Bolts of Foreclosure Defense, Truth-in-Lending & RESPA - Pro Bono Resource Center/MICPL (2009)*
- *Best Interest Attorney Training - Prince George’s County Circuit Court (2011)*
- *NBA Annual Meeting & CLE’s*
  - *National Institute of Trial Advocacy–Trial Skills & Other Seminars, Houston, TX (July 2011)*
- *Various CLE’s & Seminars, Las Vegas, (July 2012)*
- *Guardianship Panel Attorney Training for Prince George’s County - MSBA (2012)*
- *Annual Spring Weekend Bankruptcy Seminar, Annapolis, MD - Bankruptcy Bar Association (May 2013)*
- *Child Protective Services Appeals and Hearing Conference - Maryland Department of Social Services (September 2013)*
- *Avoiding Pitfalls – Practical & Ethical Considerations in the Practice of Law – J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association – Presenter: Dolores Dorsanvil, Esq. - Office of Bar Counsel (April 2014)*
- *Child Abuse & Neglect Annual Seminar - Department of Human Services/Attorney General’s Office (September 2013 & October 2014 & 2015)*
- *Navigating a Case with the Office of Child Support - Anne Arundel County Community College (2014)*
- *Evidence - Bench Bar CLE – Prince George’s County Bar Association (Summer 2014)*
- *Being Efficient Yet Effective as a Volunteer Attorney (Family Law) - Community Legal Services (Oct 2014)*
- *Divorce Litigation from Start to Finish - Prince George’s County Bar Association: Presenter, The Honorable Julia B. Weatherly, (May 2015)*
- *Representing Unaccompanied Minors in Custody and Guardianship Cases (Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Cases) - Community Legal Services (September 2015)*
- *Bankruptcy (Changes to Bankruptcy Forms, Practice & Procedure) - Bankruptcy Bar Association (December 2015)*
- *Required bi-yearly law related real estate broker’s CE’s: Real Estate Agency Laws, Real Estate Legislative Updates, Fair Housing and Real Estate Ethics Laws, Real Estate Contracts & Inspections, Laws of Short Sales, Flipping and Predatory Lending and Understanding Credit & Credit Repair - Prince George’s County Association of Realtors, The CE Shop & The Professional Development Institute (2010, 2012, 2014 & 2016)*
- *Required Broker’s Supervision (including laws surrounding advertising, marketing, Supervision, earnest money deposit handling, trust accounting and more - The Professional Development Institute (2014 & 2016)*
- *Court of Special Appeals (Common Errors & Mediation) - J. Franklyn Bourne Presentation (February 2015)*
- *Emerging Trends in Foreclosure Law & Policy Law in MD - Prince George’s County Circuit Court & the Office of Administrative Hearings (September 2015)*
- *Various CLE sessions on Ethics, Bankruptcy and more, MSBA Annual Meeting, (Summer 2015)*
- *Probate, Estates, Trusts & Elder Law – Prince George’s County Bar Association (January 2016)*

- *Medical Records Evidence in Worker's Comp/PI cases – Prince George's County Bar Association Bench Bar CLE (February 2016)*
- *Expungement Training – Prince George's County Bar Association Bench Bar CLE (March 2016)*
- *Criminal Law – Maryland Essentials of Practice - MSBA CLE (March, 2016)*
  - *Criminal Practice and Procedure in the District Court of Maryland*
  - *Maryland Criminal Pattern Jury Instructions - Review*
- *Traffic Law - MSBA CLE – (March, 2016)*

11. Have you taught any courses on law or lectured at bar association conferences, educational Institutions, or continuing legal/judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each.

- *Women's Bar Association*
  - *Balancing Family and Your Law Practice (1999)*
  - *Creating & Managing a Law Partnership (2000)*
- *DC Bar Association*
  - *Bankruptcy CLE, presenter on dischargeability and Chapter 7 discharges (2001)*
- *University of Maryland - Paralegal Studies Division (2004-2011)*  
*Adjunct Professor (Distance and Face-to-Face Course Instruction):*
  - *Real Estate Transactions*
  - *Legal Research and Writing*
  - *Advanced Legal Writing*
  - *Advanced Legal Research*
  - *Consumer Bankruptcy*
  - *Child in Need of Assistance*  
*(course content, materials and tests created by ShaRon Kelsey)*
  - *Legal Ethics & Professionalism*
  - *Wills, Estates and Trusts*
  - *Discovery Fundamentals*
  - *Bankruptcy Course Challenge, Sole Academic Reviewer*
- *The Prince George's County Department of Social Services (2012, 2014)*
  - *Child Abuse and Neglect Trial Preparation Seminar to social workers, Sole Presenter*
- *National Bar Association Mid-Year Meeting (March 2014)*
  - *Nuts and Bolts of Bankruptcy, sole presenter*
  - *Ethics and Avoiding Attorney Grievances, joint presenter with Dolores Dorsainvil*
- *American Bar Association webinar (September 2015)*
  - *Breaking the Bank: Advising Your Clients on Student Loan Debt, Bankruptcy Discharge & Hardship Relief, Sole Instructor on this module*
- *J. Franklyn Bourne Bar General Body Meeting (March 2016)*
  - *Becoming a Certified Minority/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Applying for State and County Contracts, Sole Presenter*

12. List all published books or articles you have written, giving citations and dates of publication

- *Georgetown University Law Center*
  - *The Deforestation of Haiti, Associate Editor Georgetown University Law Center Journal International Environmental Law Review (1990) Note: Exact citation not found.*



- *University of Maryland/University College*
  - *Bankruptcy peer reviewer and writer for updated on-line distance education course modules following the change in the Bankruptcy laws - published online as a part of all course materials (2005)*
  - *Complete rewrite of Estates and Trusts distance education supplemental – published online course modules, (2008)*
  - *Creation of Child In Need of Assistance 2-day, 1 credit course, including all course content and testing materials – Publications consisted of course material outlines and handouts. (2010)*

## LAW PRACTICE

13. Indicate the date of your admission to the Maryland Bar (Court of Appeals) and to each other court in which you are currently admitted to practice.
- *Maryland Court of Appeals (June 23, 1993)*
  - *District of Columbia Court of Appeals (December 6, 1993)*
  - *United States District Court for the District of Maryland (February 21, 1995)*
  - *United States District Court for the District of Columbia (November 4, 1996)*
  - *United States Supreme Court of Maryland, (Fall, 2000)*
14. Describe chronologically your law practice and experience after your graduation from law school, including, but not limited to, the following items:
- a. Whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court, and the dates you were a clerk.
- I have engaged in no judicial clerkships.*
- b. Whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and the dates.
- Law Office of ShaRon M. Kelsey (1996 - 1998)*  
*6312 Grimbsy Court*  
*Bowie, MD 20720*  
*(This was my home address. I practiced law from my home while using the virtual business address and conference room of 8201 Corporate Drive, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Landover, MD 20785)*
- The Kelsey Law Firm (December 2012–January 2013) & (September 2013-May 2015)*  
*3034 Mitchellville Road*  
*Bowie, MD 20716*

- c. The names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies, or governmental agencies with which you have been connected, and the dates and nature of your connection with each.

Koonz, McKenny, Johnson and Regan  
6411 Ivy Lane, Suite 204  
Greenbelt, MD 20770 and thereafter  
4301 Garden City Drive, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Landover, MD 20785  
Summer Associate/Law Clerk (1990-1993)  
Associate Attorney (June 1993- February 1996)

ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC  
Sole Practitioner  
6312 Grimsby Court  
Bowie, MD 20716  
(January 1996-February 1998)

ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC & Kelsey & DeBerry, LLP  
Sole Practitioner & Partner  
8201 Corporate Drive, Suite 550  
Landover, MD 20785  
(March 1998-June 1999)

ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC & Kelsey & DeBerry, LLP  
Sole Practitioner & Partner  
9500 Arena Drive, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Landover, MD 20785  
(June 1999-June 2000)

ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC & Kelsey & DeBerry, LLP  
Sole Practitioner & Partner  
9201 Basil Court, Suite 550  
Landover, MD 20785  
(June 2000-December 2002)

ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC & Kelsey & DeBerry, LLC  
Sole Practitioner & Partner  
9201 Basil Court, Suite 500  
Landover, MD 20785  
(January 2003-August 2009)

ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC & Kelsey & DeBerry, LLC  
Sole Practitioner & Partner  
9201 Basil Court, Suite 316  
Landover, MD 20785  
(September 2009-November 2012)

Calvert County Department of Social Services  
Satellite Office Space:  
200 Duke Street  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
Sole Contract Attorney - CINA Division  
(March 2007 – October 2011)

Prince George's County Department of Social Services  
3034 Mitchellville, Road  
Bowie, MD 20716  
Sole Contract Attorney - Child Abuse and Neglect Administrative Appeals  
(November 2011 - Present)

ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC t/a The Kelsey Law Firm  
Sole Practitioner/Managing Partner  
3034 Mitchellville Road  
Bowie, MD 20716  
(December 2012- Present)

- d. The reasons for **termination of employment** and/or practice and any other relevant details.

*In February, 1996, I resigned from Koonz, McKenney, Johnson and Regan, as a result of impending closure of the Maryland office. The Firm's Maryland office dissolved shortly thereafter and was later revived, I believe.*

*After eighteen (18) years of joint practice, sadly Kelsey and DeBerry, LLC dissolved, in October 2012, after my law partner, Sharon Y. Christmas-DeBerry, Esq. obtained employment as the Trust Attorney for the Prince George's County Circuit Court. She left for financial reasons.*

*While the Calvert County Department of Social Services and I had a great relationship and while they requested that I enter into another three (3) year contract, the work load increased exponentially every year and the responsibilities of being sole counsel, for the Department, for everything from shelter care to termination of parental rights, required an increasingly inordinate amount of time for one attorney. At the time, (June 2011) my girls were 13 and 15 and I felt that while I was saving everyone else's children, I was to a degree, neglecting my own. Seeing college and an empty nest in the near future, I chose to search for other work that would allow me to better balance my time before my girls might leave for college. I extended my contract for four (4) additional months, while the Department sought and found a successor attorney. My contract finally ended October 30, 2011.*

15. Your practice:

- a. What has been the general character of your practice? If its character has changed over the years, divide your description into periods with dates.

Koonz, McKenny, Johnson and Regan  
*Tort litigation practice: including worker's compensation and personal injury (auto accidents, slip and falls and medical malpractice)*  
*Law Clerk (1990-1993) /Associate Attorney (1993-1996)*  
*I consulted with new clients, researched legal issues, prepared all legal documents necessary to manage a case from initial consult through final disposition, including the complaint, preliminary and dispositive motions and all discovery. I appeared in court for all assigned pre-trial and settlement conferences and participated in depositions, arbitrations and mediations. At the time of trial, I prepared all necessary lay persons*

*and/or expert witnesses for all hearings & trials and engaged in jury selection, direct and cross-examination, opening and closing arguments and any post-trial motions. I was sole counsel for all assigned cases at the administrative, trial and/or appellate levels. During this time, I practiced before the the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, the Prince George's & Montgomery County District and Circuit Courts, the Maryland Court of Special Appeals.*

*Law Office of ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC*

*General Civil Practice*

*Sole Practitioner (1996-1998)*

*Character of Practice: With the exception of medical malpractice, I continued in a tort practice as noted under Koonz, McKenney, Johnson and Regan. Over the years I expanded my practice to include bankruptcy, foreclosure prevention, real estate closings, real estate contract preparation and review, uncontested divorce, adoptions, name changes, wills, living wills, powers of attorney, health care directives and other general civil practice. During this time, I practiced before the Maryland Bankruptcy Court, the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, the Prince George's & Montgomery County District and Circuit Courts, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Superior Court.*

*Kelsey & DeBerry, LLP & Law Office of ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC (1998-2000)*

*Partner/Sole Practitioner*

*Character of Practice: Same as above with the addition of the occasional DWI/DUI & MVA Administrative case. During this time, I practiced before the Maryland Bankruptcy Court, the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, the Office of Administrative Courts, the Prince George's & Montgomery County District and Circuit Courts, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Superior Court.*

*Kelsey & DeBerry, LLP & Law Office of ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC (2000-2001)*

*Partner/Sole Practitioner*

*Character of Practice: Same as above with the addition of estate administration. During this time, I practiced before the Maryland Bankruptcy Court, the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, the Prince George's County & Montgomery County District and Circuit Courts, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Superior Court.*

*Kelsey & DeBerry, LLP (2001-2002) & LLC (2002-2012) &*

*Law Office of ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC (2001-2008)*

*Partner/Sole Practitioner*

*Character of Practice: Initially, same as above, however, following the change in bankruptcy laws in October 2005, my regular bankruptcy case load reduced from approximately two hundred (200) cases per year to five (5). Immediately thereafter, I solicited a property management company and obtained the exclusive right to represent two (2) condominium associations and one (1) homeowner association with respect to collections, liens, foreclosure & other creditor rights.*

*Thereafter and in December 2006, I bid on and, in February 2007, obtained a contract with the Calvert County Department of Social Services with respect to all phases of Child In Need of Assistance cases. These cases included child removal, placement in foster care and guardianship and/or termination of parental rights. The contract also included an adult protective services component. Following a thirty (30) day training period (the contract actually began March 2007), I was responsible for all initial phases of shelter care hearings, including coordination of representation for the*

*parents and/or child through the office of the public defender and legal aid, preparation of the initial shelter care petition and proposed orders, coordination of all shelter care, adjudication and disposition, permanency planning and review hearings, the gathering of all necessary evidence and preparation of self, workers and lay and expert witness. Responsible for the scheduling of all hearings, including the coordination of courtroom clerks and judges and general maintenance of the docket and responsible for the preparation of all phases of termination of parental rights trials.*

*These cases regularly involved complex litigation, with myself as DSS counsel against counsel for the child (when we were not allies), each parent (which often times involved one mother and multiple fathers, with independent counsel) and sometimes represented grandparents and other interpled relatives. This area of law was completely new to me and I self-taught myself the subject matter during the one (1) month period prior to starting the contract by reviewing the relevant statutes, rules and regulations and by sitting in on and shadowing on pending cases in Baltimore and Prince George's Counties.*

*Beginning in 2005, I also trained and became eligible for appointment as a circuit court trustee, with respect to the sales of marital homes. During this time, I practiced before the Maryland Bankruptcy Court, the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, the Maryland Orphan's Court, the Prince George's & Calvert County District and Circuit Courts, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Superior Court and the District of Columbia Probate Court.*

*Kelsey & DeBerry, LLC & Law Office of ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC (2008–2011)*  
*Partner/Sole Practitioner*

*Character of Practice: Initially the same as above with the addition of training for and becoming eligible for court appointment to medical guardianship cases through the D.C. Probate Court. During this time, I followed the medical history and approved medical care and treatment for adult persons with mental health disease and/or defect. By November 2011, however my contract with the Calvert County Department of Social Services ended. Just prior and in September 2011 and based off a recommendation, I was contacted by the Office of the County Executive, Rushern Baker, III with respect to the Prince George's County Department of Social Services child abuse and neglect appeals. I accepted the position in October 2011 and began as sole counsel, handling cases surrounding child physical, mental and sexual abuse, child physical, emotional and medical neglect and adult protective services fair hearings. The appeals are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays on a regular 9:30 am and 1:00 pm docket.*

*I am also responsible for the review and redaction of all DSS case records, dissemination of all discoverable materials to the appellants, preparation of all workers, lay and expert witnesses for trial and presentation of evidentiary cases before administrative law judges. I am also responsible for obtaining any additional required evidence, regular review of medical records and other documents and regular training of DSS social workers. During this time, I practiced before the Maryland Bankruptcy Court, the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, the Maryland Orphan's Court and the Prince George's & Calvert County District and Circuit Courts, the Office of Administrative Hearings, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Superior Court and the District of Columbia Probate Court.*

*The Kelsey Law Firm (2011–Present)*

*Principal and Managing Attorney with an Associate*

*Character of Practice continued to include workers' compensation, personal injury, uncontested divorce & adoptions, bankruptcy, DWI/DUI, estate planning and administration, real estate settlements, trustee sale appointments, representation of now three (3) condominium associations and one (1) homeowner association (collections and creditor rights), guardianships (to include matters of replevin and eviction) and continued representation of the Prince George's County Department of Social Services with respect to all phases of child abuse and neglect and adult protective service administrative appeals and evidentiary hearings and fair hearings. At this time I practice before the Office of Administrative Hearings, the Maryland Bankruptcy Court, the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, the Maryland Orphan's Court and The Prince George's & Calvert County District and Circuit Courts, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Superior Court and the District of Columbia Probate Court.*

- b. Describe your typical clients, and mention the areas, if any, in which you have specialized?

*Initially, my typical clients were everyday residents of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties and Washington, DC. Later, my practice grew to include the Calvert and Prince George's County Department of Social Services and Evergreen Management Company on behalf of Windmill Square and Largo Town Center Condominium Associations and Charwood and Arbor West Homeowner's Associations. Over the past couple of years, I have also gained the confidence of everyday citizens from states across the country with respect to local collection, expungement and estate and ancillary estate representation.*

16. With respect to the last five years:

- a. Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally, or not at all? If the frequency of your appearances in court has varied during this period, please describe.

*2011-2014 – Office of Administrative Appeals – During this time, complete evidentiary hearings were scheduled four (4) times per week before the Office of Administrative Hearings. Hearings included administrative appeals with respect to child physical, sexual and/or mental abuse or child physical, mental, educational and/or medical neglect. During this time, I also appeared in Maryland & DC State and Federal Courts with respect to bankruptcy, family, estate, guardianship and other matters.*

*2014-Present - Office of Administrative Appeals - In the last year, however, the number of child abuse and neglect cases has declined due to the institution of the "Alternative Response" System. While the cases are still scheduled four (4) times per week, there are fewer, however, the remaining cases are more intense, with only the serious bodily injury, death and sex abuse cases now placed on the docket. During this time, I also continue to appear in Maryland State and federal courts with respect to worker's compensation, bankruptcy, family, estate, guardianship and other matters and DC Bankruptcy, Superior and Probate Courts. Due to the diversity of my practice, overall, I appear in court about the same amount of time.*

b. What percentage of your appearances was in the following courts?

*Preceding 5 Years: Total Number of Cases: approx. 658 (see below for breakdown)*

*\*\*\*Note\*\*\*: Cases under Maryland Case Search may be found under  
“Grayson” and “Kelsey”.*

**1. Federal Appellate Courts**

*None.*

**4. State Circuit Courts**

**Prince George’s Co. Circuit Court:**

*Guardianship – 25 or 4%*

*Trustee Appointments- 8 or 1.2%*

**Prince George’s Co. Register of Wills**

*Estate Administration 17 or 2.6%*

**Calvert Co. Circuit Court–Juvenile Ct**

*CINA – 40 or 6%*

*Family Law – 5 or .8%*

**Prince George’s Co. District Court:**

*Personal Injury – 4 or .6%*

*HOA/Condo Collection -77 or 12%*

**District of Columbia Superior Court**

*Probate Division – 2 or .3%*

*Civil – Real Estate – 1 or .2%*

**2. Other Federal Courts**

*DC Bankruptcy Court*

*2 or .3%*

**5. The District Court of Maryland**

*Maryland Bankruptcy Court*

*75 cases or 11%*

**3. State Appellate Courts. 0%**

**6. Other (Specify).**

*Office of Administrative Appeals*

*Child Abuse & Neglect Appeals*

*400 or 61%*

*Workers’ Compensation Commission –*

*2 or .3%*

c. What percentage of your litigation was

**1. Civil. - 100%**

**2. Criminal – 0%**

d. State the number of cases you tried to verdict or judgment (rather than settled) and indicate whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

▪ *Contested Adjudication/Disposition hearings: 8*

▪ *Contested Permanency Planning evidentiary hearings: 16*

▪ *Termination of Parental Rights trials (Calvert County): 3*

▪ *Child Abuse and Neglect evidentiary administrative appeal hearings (Prince George’s County): approx. 198*

▪ *Personal Injury: 1*

*I was sole counsel in all cases.*





**Change to 16b:** What percentage of your appearances was in the following courts?

***Preceding the last 5 Years: Total Number of Cases: approx. 365 (see below for breakdown) (Percentages are rounded)***

***\*\*\*Note\*\*\*: Cases under Maryland Case Search may be found under “Grayson” and “Kelsey”.***

**1. Federal Appellate Courts**

None.

**4. State Circuit Courts**

**Calvert County Circuit Court:**

CINA - 181 or 50%

**Prince George’s Co. Circuit Court:**

Trustee Appointments- 10 or 3%

**Prince George’s Co. Register of Wills**

Estate Administration 6 or 1.7%

**Prince George’s Co. District Court:**

CINA related custody, DV &

Guardianship & Indictments – 11  
or 3%

HOA/Condo Collection - 91 or 25%

**District of Columbia Superior Court**

Probate Division – 1 or .3%

**2. Other Federal Courts**

**DC Bankruptcy Court**

4 or 1%

**5. The District Court of Maryland**

**Maryland Bankruptcy Court**

59 cases or 16%

**3. State Appellate Courts. 0%**

**6. Other (Specify).**

**Workers’ Compensation Commission –**  
**2 or .05%**

**Change to 16c:** What percentage of your litigation was

**1. Civil. - 100%**

**2. Criminal – 0%**

**Change to 16e:** What percentage of these trials was

**1. Jury - 0%**

**2. Non-jury - 100%**

**Change to 16f:** Approximately what percentage of your cases were you successful in resolving short of filing suit or trial?

***0% since cases general began with a complaint.***

**Change to 16g:** If engaged in a non-litigation practice in whole or in part, what percentage of your time was in the following areas?

**1. General business**

**2. Commercial**

**3. Estates and Trusts**

**5. Administrative**

**6. Domestic Relations – 5%**

**7. Juvenile Matters**

**Estate Planning: 15%**

**4. Real Estate**

**8. Other (Specify) Bankruptcy 25%  
Trustee Appointments – 10%**

- c. Any significant changes in the number of cases you tried to verdict or judgment (rather than settled), as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

*Yes. All CINA cases, of which there were 196, involved regular and multiple evidentiary hearings, including contested shelter care, adjudication and disposition, review and permanency planning hearings and/or termination of parental rights. Cases and issues were tried bi-weekly on a docket of approximately 20 cases per session, not including cases that were specially set. The majority of these evidentiary proceedings proceeded through to court ruling/judgment.*

- d. Any significant increase in the percentage of matters you have referred for Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR"), including mediation and arbitration, or that you have settled short of trial or of filing suit.

*Yes, prior to 2011, successful mediation occurred quite frequently. With respect to Child in Need of Assistance Cases, mediation was used frequently with respect to sub case issues surrounding child placement, custody, visitation, reunification, adoption, guardianship, termination of parental rights and other child welfare matters. I was sole mediator for the interests of the county.*

18. Identify three of the most significant cases you have ever handled that went to trial, identifying the Judge who tried the case, opposing counsel, the place where it was tried, the major points at issue in the litigation, and the result, and describe your participation in the case.

*Adrienne Jackson (now Mason) v. Woodward and Lothrop (Workers' Compensation)*  
*Workers' Compensation Commission Case No.: B262-757; Montgomery County Circuit Court, Case No.: 194370V & 113086V; Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge: Hon. William C. Miller. Opposing counsel: Rudolph L. Rose, Esq. & Eugene I. Kane, Esq. of Semmes, Bowen and Semmes. The case was also appealed to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals – September Term 1995, Case No. 534 with an unreported opinion in favor of my client, claimant/plaintiff. At this level, opposing counsel changed to Eugene I. Kane, Esq., & Gina M. Householder, Esq. The case was thereafter further appealed to the Maryland Court of Appeals, however cert. was denied.*

*This was a workmens' compensation claim which arose out of an injury sustained while the claimant/plaintiff was working as a cosmetic technician. On February 14, 1992, while the claimant/plaintiff was working for Woodward and Lothrop, she went to the stock room to retrieve a particular red shade of lipstick. Because there was an overabundance of stock over the holiday weekend, the step ladder was piled with boxes and not readily available for use. The claimant/plaintiff thereafter, in a rush, attempted to step onto the bottom shelf and stretch to reach for the lipstick. While reaching, she discovered that the lipstick was more to the left of where she was standing. As a result, she had to reach high, bend her body backward, to a degree, and somewhat twist to reach the product. In so doing, she suffered a sudden stroke of her spine. As a result, the claimant/plaintiff, over the following four (4) days became completely paralyzed from the waist down.*

*After the injury, the claimant/plaintiff filed for workmens' compensation benefits which were immediately contested by the Employer/Insurer, who claimed that accidental injury and causation were at issue. Thereafter, the claimant requested a hearing before the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission, attended that hearing and was denied benefits. Because the firm*

*believed the case would be a good practice case, I, as a recent graduate, was assigned to handle the appeal to the Circuit Court.*

*The appeal was noted in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County and a jury trial was prayed. The trial was then scheduled and held on June 29th & 30th, 1994, with the claimant and the Chief of Neurology from George Washington University as my expert witness. The employer's expert witness was a doctor of internal medicine. At the conclusion of the trial, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the claimant/plaintiff finding that she had, in fact, sustained an accidental injury and that the resulting disability was causally related to said accidental injury. The case was thereafter remanded back to the Workers' Compensation Commission for further proceedings.*

*Thereafter, the employer appealed the matter to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals based upon an evidentiary issue surrounding the "Frye-Reed" test. The matter was argued and thereafter affirmed by way of an unreported opinion. The employer then appealed the matter to the Maryland Court of Appeals and Cert. was denied. The case took four (4) years to conclude. My client received lifetime workers' compensation benefits in all respects. I was sole counsel. Fun Fact: I argued this case on Wednesday, December 6, 1995. My first daughter was born on that Friday, December 8, 1995!*

*In Re: Taylor G. (Termination of Parental Rights)*

*Calvert County Juvenile Court Case Number 04- I-03-011. Judge: Hon. Warren Krug. Opposing Counsel: Initially, Patricia Jackson, Esq. & following her retirement, Seri Wilpone, Esq., both counsel for the child and Rita McGinley, Esq. & following her retirement, Susan Gilhooly, Esq., both attorneys for the mother. This case involved a child who had severe mental and physical delays and who was neglected by his mother. While the mother cared for and loved her son deeply, she had mental health deficiencies and educational delays that simply would not allow her to care for him. The mother was not able to comprehend that she lacked the capacity and/or ability to properly care for him. While she tried very hard, she was not able to advocate and/or help him personally, medically, educationally or otherwise. In fact, during the reunification period, her attempts to care for the child repeatedly left him at additional substantial risk of harm. Therefore, her parental rights had to be terminated.*

*Following a multi-day trial and finding by the court that her rights would be terminated, the case was appealed to the Court of Special Appeals. The case was thereafter remanded, back to the Circuit Court for Calvert County, for further services, by the Department of Social Services. The mother failed at all attempts and a second termination of parental rights proceeding occurred, which was again granted. The case ended with the mother's acceptance of the inevitable outcome and happily, an open adoption arrangement that allowed her to remain in contact with her son.*

*This was a particularly difficult and draining case, having to terminate the rights of such a loving mother...twice. The mental health aspects of the case, for the mother and child, were overwhelming complex. I was sole counsel at the trial level, however, due to the arrangement of the contract, the Attorney General's Office actually briefed and argued the case at the appellate level.*

*In Re: Sean P., Breanna P. & Jacob P. (Termination of Parental Rights)*

*Calvert County Juvenile Court Case Nos. Z-10-019. 020 & 021. Judge: Hon. Warren Krug: Opposing Counsel, Sandra Strissel, Esq. Counsel for the Children. Opposing counsel: Patricia Jackson, Esq., Counsel for the Mother. This case involved three (3) children who were removed from their home due to regular parental drug use, repeated drug affected births, general neglect and periodic abandonment of the children. Reunification efforts were put in place for several years. Unfortunately, the parents were unable to overcome their personal*

*addictions and more specifically, the mother continued to have drug affected children. As a result, a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights was filed.*

*During the discovery phase, I drafted interrogatories, request for production of documents and over 600 requests for admissions. As a result of the answers to the discovery requests, a large number of preliminary admissions were read into the record. In addition, it was requested that the Court take judicial notice of several prior cases, involving the parents. As a result, the need for a variety of other lay and expert witnesses was greatly reduced and the father consented to having his parental rights terminated. Trial thereafter proceeded only against the mother and at the close of all evidence, her parental rights were terminated. All three children were adopted by a stable family. I was sole counsel.*

19. List all memberships in bar associations of any type or jurisdiction, including dates of membership, offices or positions held, with dates of participation, and any other matters you consider of particular significance.
- *Maryland State Bar Association (1993-Present)*
    - *Center for Professionalism: New Admittee Mentor (2015)*
  - *Prince George's County Bar Association (1993-Present)*
    - *Moot Court Coach - Bowie High School (1999)*
    - *Moot Court Judge - Bowie High School (1999)*
  - *District of Columbia Bar Association (1994–Present)*
  - *American Trial Lawyers Association (1993-1996)*
  - *Prince George's County Women's Bar Association (1988–2001)*
    - *Treasurer (1998-1999) – As an executive board member, I assisted with the creation, coordination and organization of all bar events in addition to my independent treasurer duties.*
    - *Secretary, (1999-2000) – As an executive board member, I assisted with the creation, coordination and organization of all bar events, in addition to my regular secretarial duties.*
    - *Vice President, (2000-2001) - As an executive board member, I assisted with the creation, coordination and organization of all bar events.*
  - *J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association (2008-Present)*
    - *Recording Secretary (2008-2009)*
    - *Legislative Committee Chair (2009)*
    - *Banquet Committee Member (2009-2011) & Chair (2016)*
    - *Christmas Party Co-coordinator (2009-2014)*
    - *General Bar Association Photography and Power Point creator (2009- 2016)*
    - *Scholarship Chair (2011-2015)*
    - *Treasurer (2011-2015)*
    - *Seafood Committee Member (2011-2015)*
    - *General Body Meetings – food purchase, delivery and set-up (2011-2015)*
    - *National Adoption Day Participant (2014 & 2015)*
    - *Wills For Heroes Participant (2014)*
    - *Social Media Specialist – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram (2014-2016)*
    - *Golf Tournament Reconciler of Joint Bourne and PG Bar Profits (2014 & 2015)*
    - *Bourne Picnic Co-coordinator (2014 & 2015)*
    - *Judicial Nominating Committee Member (2015); Chair (2016)*  
*(Position turned over to another member in March 2016)*

- *Christmas in April - House Captain (2015 & 2016)*
  - *Fundraised \$500.00 (2015)*
  - *Solicited gift card and other donations from Lowes, Home Depot, Giant and Chik-fil-a (2015)*
  - *\$200.00 from MSBA – Young Lawyer’s Division (2015)*
  - *Fundraising for 2016 - \$885.00 in cash so far.*
- *President-Elect following a contested election (2015-Present)*
- *Bankruptcy Bar Association (2000-2005)*

20. List all professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition, which you have received.

- *Maryland Court of Appeals Certificate of Appreciation Attorney Panel Member - State of Maryland Attorney Grievance Commission (Fall 2006)*
- *President's Award - J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association (2009, 2010 & 2014)*
- *Outstanding Service to the District Court ADR Volunteer Program - Prince Georges County District Court (2009-2014)*
- *Governor’s Citation: District 13 Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Committee 8 Years of Service - Governor Martin O'Malley, Governor’s Office (January 2015)*
- *Certificate of Recognition – House Captain in the Prince George’s County Christmas In April Program - County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III (2015)*
- *“BV” Distinguished Very High rating in Both Legal Ability and Ethical Standards – Martindale Hubbell (Fall 2015)*
- *Certificate of Recognition for participation in Maryland Professionalism Center, Inc. Mentoring Program (2014-2015)*

## **BUSINESS AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

21. Have you ever engaged in any business or profession other than the practice of law? If yes, state the name of the business or employer and the dates of service and briefly describe the nature of the business or profession and the reason for leaving.

### *Professional Positions held post law school:*

#### *Kelsey Realty, Inc., Bowie, MD*

*Real Estate Brokerage Services*

*Real Estate Broker, January, 2001 - Present.*

*I was responsible for the acquisition of new clients with respect to the sale and/or purchase of homes in the State of Maryland, including performing open houses, comparable market analysis reports, preparing & implementing marketing plans for current listings and assisting clients with negotiations, appraisals, home inspections, mortgage lending and final closing preparation and transactions. I was also responsible for maintaining contact with other agents & brokers regarding the sale and showing of homes in addition to maintaining contact with multiple vendors for the creation of signs, monthly advertising, marketing & web page design. The company continues to operate. Note: during the first several years, my husband J. Michael Kelsey, maintained his realtor license under Kelsey Realty, Inc., however, at this time his license is inactive and has been for several years.*

#### *University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

*“Webtycho “ Distance & Face-to-Face Education, Legal Studies Division*

*Adjunct Professor/Legal Studies Division, 2004-2014*

*Adjunct professor of legal studies including courses in Bankruptcy, CINA, Real Estate Transactions, Legal Research and Writing, Elder Law, Discovery and Legal*

*Ethics. Responsible for classroom and on-line classes, including preparation of all course materials, classwork, quizzes, tests projects and final exams. Responsibilities also included preparation for weekly classroom sessions and/or on-line discussions & conferences. Evaluations, grading and constructive guidance was also required. I also suggested and created the Child In Need of Assistance Course, assisted with the re-write of the on-line bankruptcy course modules, following the 2005 change in Bankruptcy laws and solely rewrote the on-line modules of the Wills and Estates course. I have not taught a class in several years, however, there has been no formal separation from the University. While I don't believe it to be necessary, if required, I would be willing to formally terminate the relationship.*

*Employment following graduation of undergraduate studies:*

- *The Carlyle Group, Washington, DC*  
*Corporate Acquisition Firm*  
*Executive Secretary to Partner, (Full-time Summer 1989)*  
*I was responsible for engaging in the dictation and transcription of correspondence, arranging my executive's calendar and planning and scheduling travel arrangements and meetings. I also worked with the technology team assisting with the electronic retrieval and organization of raw data, which was thereafter converted into explanatory visual aids, for use during multi-million dollar acquisition presentations. I voluntarily resigned when I was notified that I had been accepted into law school.*

*Employment held throughout undergraduate years:*

- *Law Office of Ronald Schwartz, Esq., Wheaton, MD*  
*Receptionist, Secretary, and ultimately Paralegal (Part-time 1986-1989)*  
*I started out as a receptionist/secretary for Attorney Schwartz, working three (3) days per week to primarily answer the phones, type documents, organize the office and ensure that someone was always present in the office of this solo practitioner. However, following the graduation and resignation of his law clerk, I suggested that I had learned a sufficient amount of his bankruptcy and other law practice to request a substantial increase in income while taking over the duties of the law clerk in addition to my own. Attorney Schwartz agreed. He did not hire a replacement law clerk and I began engaging in legal assistant/paralegal duties until I left the office to begin earning more money in the hopes of saving for law school.*
- *Office of Naval Research, Arlington, VA*  
*Computer Tech (part-time all day Saturday and Sundays 1988-1989)*  
*Secret Security Clearance required and obtained.*  
*This was a weekend job obtained while I remained employed at the Law Office of Ronald Schwartz, Esq. I worked in the IT computer server room and was responsible for starting up the organization's computer system on the weekends, for those that were required to work. I powered up the computers for the day, monitored the computers, ensured that the building printers were stocked and operational, engaged in any necessary troubleshooting, ensured proper room temperature control and ultimately shut down the servers at the end of the day. I resigned in preparation for law school.*
- *MCI Communications, Pentagon City, VA*  
*Human Resources Division Liaison (Full-time 1986- from 7am-3pm-for 9 months)*  
*I was hired to manage the activities of the human resources department with*

*respect to employee benefits and personnel behavior. I involuntarily left the company suddenly. More specifically, when I returned from visiting my mother in Haiti and while travelling to work that Monday morning, I saw the Washington Post headlines that MCI was laying off 3,000 employees. When I arrived at the office, I learned that I was one of those employees. That was my last day.*

- Riggs Bank, Washington, DC  
*Lockbox Division (night job 5–10pm) while employed at MCI (1986)*  
*I engaged in the processing of mail order payments for purchases from the Smithsonian Institute sales catalog. I opened the envelopes, entered in the information and was responsible for ensuring a full monetary reconciliation at the close of all transactions. I resigned following the layoff from MCI to return to school full-time and finish my undergraduate degree.*
- Riggs Bank, Washington, DC  
*Construction Loan Division - Executive Secretary (Full-time August 1980–1986)*  
*I was executive secretary to a Vice President. I engaged in regular typing, dictation, phone and other secretarial duties. I also offered to use the departments' first electronic typewriter and thereafter was chosen to research and ultimately choose and implement the department's first set of personal computers. I also trained all personnel on the use of the computers and continued as the inter-office computer troubleshooter. While I enjoyed my job at Riggs Bank, there was no growth within my department (without a college degree), so I resigned for a higher salary and different career path, in Human Resources at MCI.*
- Toys R Us - Langley Park, MD  
*Cashier – Night/Weekend job while employed at Riggs Bank (1982), I resigned because I moved to Wheaton, Maryland.*
- Hechinger's – Wheaton, MD  
*Cashier – Night/Weekend job while employed at Riggs Bank (1983)*  
*I resigned for a higher paying position.*
- Raleigh's Men's Store – White Flint Mall, Rockville, MD  
*Cashier – Night/Weekend job while employed at Riggs Bank, (1983)*  
*I resigned because I moved to Hyattsville, MD*
- Regis Inventory Company  
*Part-time Weekends (1986)*  
*I travelled with weekend groups to retail stores, to engage in inventory duties. I resigned because the hours were unbearably long and I found that I did not prefer the duties required.*
- Temporary Staffing Agencies *Variety of Secretarial Assignments Obtained during the Summer Recession of 1980. I discontinued this service after Riggs Bank hired me full-time following a two (2) week assignment.*
- Montgomery College – Takoma Park, MD  
*Part-time college work study program (Fall Semester 1980)*  
*General office duties surrounded the cable broadcast series "College of the Air". In addition to general office duties, I assisted with the use of all audio/visual technology and equipment. This was a semester position.*

- Prudential Life Insurance, Bethesda, MD  
*Post Insurance Coverage Clerk – (Full-time, Summer 1979)*  
*I was responsible for the billing, collection and daily deposits of insurance premiums. I also handled all paperwork necessary to continue and extend insurance policies. I enjoyed this position and honestly, I can't remember why I left this job, however, I do recall that it was voluntary.*
- Georgetown Leather Design – Landover, Maryland  
*Part-time sales clerk (Summer 1979)*  
*Sales of leather clothing (outerwear, shoes and accessories). This was a Summer position before college started.*
- International House of Pancakes, Langley Park, MD  
*Waitress – Part-time, Weekend Graveyard Shift (1979).*  
*My duties included general waitressing. Despite the manager's requests, I resigned after a very brief period of time as a result of the type of clientele that frequented IHOP during the weekend graveyard shift.*
- Grady Management, Spring, MD  
*Part-time Weekend position (1979-1980)*  
*I worked in the main office handling general leasing documents. I was also a floater and covered sick and vacationing leasing office personnel at all rental property locations, showing apartments and assisting with the processing of applications of prospective renters. I resigned because I changed college campuses and this location was no longer convenient to public transportation.*
- Bowl America, Silver Spring, Maryland  
*Evenings and Weekends (1979–1980)*  
*Short order cook on the alley grill, preparing alley food, including hot dogs, hamburgers, pizza, sandwiches, fries, pie and other refreshments.*

Employment while in High School:

- Peoples Drug Store (Now CVS), Langley Park, Maryland  
*Part-time Evenings and Weekends (December 1977-1980)*  
*Cahier, Clerk, Pharmacy Assistant and ultimately Office Assistant.*  
*I started as a cashier on the express line. I moved my way from the express line, up to the photo counter, beauty counter and then on to work with the pharmacist. Ultimately, I assisted the manager with the running of the store office, including the independent collection and reconciliation of all daily register cash and check and credit card receipts. I also ran the lottery machine and processed customer refunds.*
- Montgomery Blair High School  
*Student Part-time – Senior Year (1979)*  
*Office assistant for a class period a day. I also opened and operated the school book store for the hour before and/or after regular school hours, depending on my assigned shift.*
- Dart Drug Store  
*December, 1977 (1 week)*  
*I was hired as a cashier on a Monday and fired on that following Friday, when my manual cash register drawer failed to consistently balance.*



22. Are you now an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? If so, provide details as to the nature of the business, the nature of your duties and the term of your service. Is it your intention to resign these positions and withdraw from participation in the management of these enterprises if you are nominated and appointed? If not, explain.

- **Owner and Real Estate Broker:**  
*Kelsey Realty, Inc.; (2001–Present)*  
*Nature of the business: Real Estate Brokerage Services (Sales and Purchases).*  
*I am responsible for assisting potential home purchasers and sellers in navigating the sale/purchase process from listing/buying to settlement/closing. I also assist with contract review, home staging, open houses, and other aspects of the real estate transaction. If it is required, then I am prepared to shut down the brokerage.*
- **Title producer's license** (since approximately 2005). *I hold this license, however, I have never been involved in an insurance transaction. If it is required, then I am prepared to terminate my license.*
- **Bo Fosters Hope** (2009–Present)  
*Nature of the Charity: Charitable services to children in foster care, including tutoring, annual backpack drives and give-away, information and direction to youth when aging out of the foster care system, mentoring, general support and more. If it is required, then I am prepared to resign from this position.*

23. Have you ever held a judicial or quasi-judicial office? If yes, please provide the name of the court and the period of service. *Yes.*

- **Court-Appointed Trustee**, *I am regularly appointed, by the Prince George's County Circuit Court, with respect to the sale of marital property in divorce cases. (Since at least 2005)*
- **Court-Appointed Guardian of the Property**, *I am regularly appointed, by the Prince George's County Circuit Court, as guardian of the property for persons with mental health diseases and/or defects. (2012–Present)*

24. List all non-judicial public offices, elected or appointed, you now hold or have held in the past. If currently held, would you be willing to resign from these positions? If not, explain.

- *Notary Public (Since at least 1999) – Commission expires March, 2020.*
- *Peer Review Attorney, Attorney Grievance Commission (2004 - Present) - yes, I would be willing to resign.*
- *Commissioner, Prince George's County Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Committee (2007-2015)*
- *Treasurer - Delegate Erek Barron (since December, 2015) - yes, I would resign.*

25. List all civic activities in which you have taken part, giving the dates of participation and any offices or leadership positions you have held.

- *Charity 24 hour Bike-a-thon - Participant/Winner! (1979)*
- *March of Dimes Walk Against Birth Defects - Walker (1988)*
- *American Cancer Society - Driver (1989)*
- *PBS Call Center Volunteer for Annual Fundraiser (2000 & 2001)*
- *Samuel Ogle Elem School – Field Trip Chaperone for both my girls – all events (2000-2004)*
- *Pointer Ridge Elementary School – Career Day (2005)*
- *Kenmoor Elementary School – Chairperson – Kids Night Out Fundraiser (2006)*
- *Kenmoor Elementary School – Chairperson for Hershey Park Trip. Fundraised, arranged for transportation and coordinated all details of the trip (2006)*
- *J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association Ask-a-Lawyer–Bowie Sr. Center – Participant (2006)*
- *Kettering Baptist Church - Teller Ministry (2006–Present)*
- *Pointer Ridge Middle Elementary School Career Day (2007)*
- *Walker Mill Middle School – Career Day (2008)*
- *Benjamin Tasker Middle School – Career Day (2008)*
- *Calvert County Breast Cancer Zumba-a-thon - Dancer (2013)*
- *Bo Fosters Hope Foster Children’s Annual Basketball Tournament - Door monitor, ticket taker and treasurer (2011-2015)*
- *Maryland Legal Aid Pro Bono Law Day, Baltimore Office - Pro Bono Attorney, (2015)*
- *Alzheimer’s 5K Walk/Run – Bowie Baysox Stadium - Walker (2014 & 2015)*
- *District Court of Maryland Volunteer ADR Program - Mediator (2009-Present)*
  - *40 hour mediation training (October 2006)*
  - *Registered mediator in:*
    - *Prince George’s County Circuit Court*
    - *Anne Arundel Circuit Court*
    - *Calvert County Circuit Court*
    - *Charles County Circuit Court*
- *Law Day/Pro Bono Day/Ask-a-Lawyer Programs*
  - *Reid Temple A.M.E. Church, Pro Bono Attorney (2013)*
  - *Reid Temple A.M.E Church Criminal Expungement Program, Pro Bono Attorney (March 2016)*
  - *Greater Mt. Nebo Church, Pro-Bono Attorney, (October 2014)*
  - *First Baptist Church of Glen Arden, Law Day - (2012-2014)*
    - *Presenter: Bankruptcy (April 2012)*
    - *Presenter: Guardianship/Estate Planning (April 2013)*
    - *Presenter: Debt Management/Financial Planning (April, 2013)*
    - *Pro Bono Attorney (2014)*
  - *Ebenezer AME Church, Ft. Washington, MD - Law Day, Pro Bono Attorney (2005)*
  - *Kettering Baptist Church Pro Bono Law Day (creator & co- organizer)*
    - *Ask-A-Lawyer Panel Discussion Attorney & One-on-One Advisor (2014)*
    - *Presenter – Foreclosure Mediation and Bankruptcy & One-on-One Advisor (September 2015)*
  - *Beltsville Church Presentation with Register of Wills, Cereta Lee – presenter (July 2014)*
- *Cereta Lee for Register of Wills - Poll worker (2014)*
- *Community Legal Services - four (4) pro bono Chapter 7 bankruptcy cases (2014)*
- *Volunteer pro bono attorney to immediately take over a percentage of cases, following the sudden death of bankruptcy attorney, Judy Nicks, Esq. (July 2008)*

- *Kettering Baptist Church Warm Nights Program for the Homeless - Food Server (2011 & 2013)*
- *Kettering Baptist Church Back to School Backpacks Program/Stuffer and tagger of 300 backpacks (August 2015)*
- *Free Neighborhood Short Sale/Foreclosure Seminar, Bowie Library – Speaker (October 2015)*
- *Maryland Attorney Grievance Commission Conditional Diversion attorney:*
  - *Services requested by the Attorney Grievance Commission (2014-2015)*
  - *Services requested by the respondent/attorney (2016)*
- *Maryland Pro Bono Resource Center*
  - *Foreclosure Prevention Document Review Project–Watkins Park, Pro Bono Attorney (Summer 2009)*
- *Kettering Baptist Church “Get In Check” Neighborhood Auto/Spiritual Wellness Check Participant (Summer 2008)*
- *Samuel Ogle Elementary School Market Day Setup Participant (2002-2004)*
- *St Pius School Market Day Set-up Participant (2005-2006)*
- *Register of Wills Christmas “Angel Tree” for a chosen veteran family, Sponsor (December 2014)*
- *WHUR Project Harvest/Food to Feed Program, Regular sponsor (10+ years)*
- *Riverdale Baptist School Annual Black History Event, Cooking Contributor (2008-2015)*
- *Riverdale Baptist School student play rehearsal night, Cooking Contributor (Cooked full meal for 50 cast members, stage hands and faculty) (May 2015)*
- *Catholic Charities: Pro Bono Special Immigrant Status Case, Pro Bono Attorney (December 2015)*

26. List all other charitable, educational, fraternal or sororal, recreational, or religious organizations, trade groups, professional societies (other than bar associations), and similar groups of which you now or have ever been a member and give the dates of membership and the titles of the offices, if any, that you held.

- *Alpha Sigma Lamda Honor Society (University of Maryland/University College), Member. By invitation only, the society honors those dedicated adult students who, while adroitly handling their life responsibilities, achieve and maintain high scholastic standards. (inducted in 1988, however, I have not kept up with the membership)*
- *National Association of Realtors, Member (2001–Present)*
- *Prince George’s County Association of Realtors, Member (2001–Present)*
- *Maryland Association of Realtors, Member (2001–Present)*
- *Kettering Baptist Church, Member (2002–Present)*
- *Foster Care Court Improvement Project, Stakeholder Committee Member (2009-2011)*
- *Bo Fosters Hope Board, Member (2009-Present)*

27. List all awards or recognition you have received not listed in question 20.

- *24 hour Charity Bike-a-Thon Trophy Winner (1979)*
- *Outstanding Contribution to the Law Center’s Academic Program - Georgetown University Law Center Tutorial Program (May, 1992)*
- *Karaoke – Applebee’s Bowie – Best Singer of the Night (2013)*
- *Christmas in April, Certificate of Appreciation (2015)*
- *Greater Mt Nebo Letters of Appreciation (2012 & 2014)*
- *First Baptist Church of Glen Arden - Letters of Appreciation (2012 & 2014)*
- *Kettering Baptist Church - Letters of Appreciation (2014 & 2015)*
- *I also especially cherish all cards, letters, pictures and flowers received in addition to testimonials placed on my social media sites, from all satisfied clients who take the time to do so.*

## CONDUCT

28. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? If so, provide details. DO NOT include motor vehicle offenses for which a fine of \$50.00 or less was imposed.
- *Speeding ticket - South Carolina (2013) – I paid the fine.*
  - *Speeding Ticket 40 in a 25 mile zone - PBJ approx. (1998-99)*
29. Give particulars of any litigation, including divorce, in which you personally are now or previously have been either a plaintiff or defendant. For each, list dates, the names of the moving parties, the number of the case, the court, and the grounds for the litigation.
- *Prince George’s County Circuit Court - CAL05-10816: Alexandria Employees Federal Credit Union v. Hartford Insurance, Moving Party: ShaRon Kelsey (plaintiff as guardian for a minor child). This was an appeal, from a favorable decision I received, on behalf of a minor child, bond company and credit union, after her mother was first permitted to deposit the child’s \$28,000.00 insurance proceeds into an unrestricted account and thereafter, spend all but \$56.00 of it, by among other things, regularly telephonically transferring funds out of the child’s account and into her own. I had been appointed as successor guardian of the property for the child and thereafter began the recovery action in the Orphans Court, by filing a petition to condemn the existing bond and other claims against the Credit Union. Hartford and the Credit Union appealed the decision. The matter was ultimately settled with contributions from Hartford, the credit union and the mother.*
  - *Prince George’s County Circuit Court - CAE10-36278 & 79: Capitol Source Bank FBO v. Kelsey; This case was filed on November 15, 2010 by the movant, Capitol Source Bank FBO. I was named as the successor personal representative, on behalf of the decedent/defendant, in an action to foreclose the right of redemption following a tax sale. Ultimately, I was able to rectify the actions of the original personal representative, quickly sell both homes at public auction and redeem the home from the tax sale.*
  - *Prince George’s County Circuit Court - CAL11-11866: Charles Martin v. ShaRon Kelsey, Esq & Kelsey & DeBerry, LLC (grievance related). The Movant was Charles Martin. I was appointed as a trustee to sell a marital home. As I became closer to selling the property, Mr. Martin filed this case against me on May 13, 2011. The case was based upon a complaint of alleged contract claims surrounding, among other things, Mr. Martin’s constitutional right to remain in his home. A motion to dismiss, filed on behalf of ShaRon Kelsey and Kelsey & DeBerry, LLC was granted on November 10, 2011, for his failure to state a claim upon which relief could be granted.*
  - *Prince George’s County District Court - 0502-0013944-2013: Kelsey v. Sterling/Kay Jewelers – this case was filed on May 17, 2014: My husband and I were the movants. We sued Kay Jewelers, on behalf of myself and my husband, when they refused to refund \$4,000.00 for an anniversary tennis bracelet my husband bought for me. After the purchase, 4 diamonds fell out, of two different bracelets, over the first 90 day period. I dismissed the case after they refunded the full purchase price.*

- *Prince George's County District Court: Yellowbook v. Kelsey (Approximately 2007). This was a contract dispute over an advertising fee. I recall that the matter resolved itself. I thought an actual case had been filed, however, I couldn't find it on case search. This is full disclosure in case someone happens to find it.*

30. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct or have you ever been the subject of a complaint to any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group, including without limitation, the Commission on Judicial Disabilities, the Attorney Grievance Commission, or the Clients' Protection Fund? If so, details, including final disposition of the matter.

- *Martin v. Gamble: Case No: CAD05-10591 – This complaint was filed, by Charles Martin, husband, as a result of my appointment to sell his marital home. Among other things, he alleged that my actions violated his constitutional right to remain in his home. No follow-up or discipline occurred as a result of this complaint.*
- *Green v. Green: Case No: CAD 05-11068 –This complaint was filed by Krystal Medley-Greene, as a result of my appointment to sell her marital home. Among other things, she alleged that I failed to protect her 200 year old family bible that was stolen from the house, after she moved out and left it there for more than 2 years. At the time, while I was appointed to sell the house, I did not have actual possession of the home. Following my response to the Grievance Commission, the complaint was closed without action.*
- *Gillette v. Gillette: Case No.: CAD12-26594 – This complaint was filed, by Rufus Gillette, as a result of my appointment to sell his marital home. Among other things, Mr. Hill alleged that I had mismanaged his sale proceeds because I allowed the mortgage company to be paid at closing and did not immediately disburse his share of the profits to him. Of course, the court order called for a suggested distribution and court audit prior to disbursement, which was explained to Mr. Gillette early in the process. Following my response to the Grievance Commission, the complaint was closed without action.*
- *Hill v. Hill: Case No.: CAD13-01483 - This complaint was not filed by a party to the case, but rather by the Realtor for the husband/seller, Phyllis J. Cipriano and again surrounded a transaction wherein I was appointed, as trustee, to sell a marital home. The complaint was received February 2, 2016. The Realtor was dissatisfied with the steps I took to sell the property. She believed that I should have followed her specific recommendations and procedures as opposed to those identified by the court. In addition, closing occurred approximately seventeen (17) days after the initial date set in the contract, due to the scheduling of the wife's purchase of her new home. As a result, the Realtor believed that I was "working with the wife to delay the process" and that the delay had cost the husband/buyer two (2) months of additional mortgage payments or approximately \$3,000.00 (after the couple had taken eight (8) years to finally get through the fourth divorce filing). On March 17, 2016, Assistant Bar Counsel C. Shea McSpaden notified the complainant that she found no sufficient basis for the Attorney Grievance Commission to take any further action and closed the file.*
- *The above complainant, Ms. Cipriano also filed a like complaint with the Department of Labor and Licensing (DLLR) with respect to my real estate brokers' license. She also filed a claim with the guaranty fund for \$3,000.00 in damages. In response, I notified DLLR that, during the transaction, I was not acting in the capacity of a Realtor or engaging in brokerage serves at the time of the transaction. I further notified DLLR that pursuant to Maryland Business and Occupations Article §17-102(1), that the disciplinary code section did not apply to a person while acting under a judgment or order of court. Finally, I notified DLLR that §17-102(6)(ii) specifically does not apply to a person while acting in the*

*capacity of a court-appointed trustee. On March 17, 2016, DLLR forwarded a letter agreeing with me and concluded that there was no supporting evidence to indicate that I had violated any of the Commission's laws or regulations and closed both the regulatory complaint and the guaranty fund claim.*

31. Has a complaint on the basis of racial, sexual, national origin, disability or religious discrimination ever been filed against you? If so, please explain.

*Never.*

32. Is there any other information concerning your background that might be considered detrimental or that otherwise should be taken into consideration by the Commission in evaluating your application? If so, provide details, including a description of each incident with relevant dates, names and addresses.

*No.*

## **GENERAL**

32. List the names, business addresses and business telephone numbers of at least three individuals who are familiar with your professional qualifications and who have known you for more than the last five years. (*NOTE: AN APPLICANT SHOULD NOT USE THE NAME OF A MEMBER OF THE NOMINATING COMMISSION AS A REFERENCE.*)

- *The Honorable Judge Warren Krug (Ret.)  
Calvert County Circuit Court  
175 Main Street  
Prince Frederick, MD 20768  
(410-535-1660)*
- *The Honorable Judge Jerome Woods, II  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
11101 Gilroy Road  
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031  
(410) 229-4237*
- *Sharon Y. Christmas-DeBerry, Esq.,  
Trust Attorney for The Prince George's County Circuit Court  
14735 Main Street  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
(301) 952-5001*

34. Is this the first time you have applied for a judicial vacancy? If not, for each of your prior applications state the dates, the judicial office and whether you were nominated, appointed, not nominated or not appointed.

*Yes.*

35. Have you filed all federal and state tax returns that are now due or overdue and are all payments thereon up to date? If not, explain. Have federal, state or local authorities ever instituted a lien or other collection procedure against you? If so, explain.

- *All taxes are currently paid and up-to-date.*

- *CAL13-13363: State of Maryland v. Kelsey: Yes, in May, 2013, a lien was placed against the property of my husband and myself, by the State of Maryland. The taxes totaled approximately \$1,200.00 and was thereafter paid. The lien was released July, 2014.*
- *Note: Kelsey Realty, Inc & ShaRon M. Kelsey, LLC are both registered Minority Business Enterprises (MBE's) with the State Maryland. Both entities are in good standing with the State Department of Taxes and Assessments.*

36. Do you have a professional, business, consanguineous, or personal relationship with any member of the Judicial Nominating Commission that may interview you for this vacancy? If so, provide dates and a description of this relationship.

*During my twenty-four (24) years of practice, I have come to know the following persons:*

- *Robert C. Bonsib, Esq., Mr. Bonsib and I served together on the Prince George's County Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Committee between 2007-2015.*
- *Denise M. Bowman, Esq.: Ms. Bowman and I served together on the Prince George's County Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Committee between 2007-2015.*
- *Bridgette Ann Greer, Esq.: Ms. Greer and I served together on the Prince George's County Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Committee between 2007-2015. Since 2009, we also continue to serve on various events of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association.*
- *Walter E. Laake, Jr., Esq.: Mr. Laake and I have served together on the Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Committee between 2007 -2015. We have also served on the Attorney Grievance Commission, as Peer Review Attorneys, for many years. We have occasionally served on the same panel.*
- *Frances Roehrich Longwell, Esq.: I knew of Deputy State's Attorney Longwell while I was counsel for the Calvert County Department of Social Services. We occasionally crossed paths with respect to a parent that was involved in a CINA matter. Our contact was minimal.*
- *Michael McGowan, Esq.: I knew of Mr. McGowen, while I practiced tort law while at Koonz McKenney, Johnson and Regan. We may have had a personal injury case together many years ago. If not, I do recognize his name as having a case with some member of the firm. I have not had any dealings or communications with him since at least 1995.*

37. During the preceding five years, have you belonged to a club or organization (other than a religious organization) that discriminates against or excludes persons on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin or disability? If so, please explain.

*No.*

38. In conclusion, is there anything additional in your background that the Commission should consider in evaluating your qualifications to be nominated for this vacancy?

*My Firm activities are kept up-to-date on the following social media sites.*

- *Web addresses: [www.kelseyrealty.net](http://www.kelseyrealty.net) & [www.kelseyrealty.net](http://www.kelseyrealty.net)*
- *Lawyers.com: <http://goo.gl/eSGzOF>*
- *Avvo.com: <http://goo.gl/XoVYrK>*

- **Nolo.com:** <http://www.nolo.com/lawyers/profile/the-kelsey-law-firm>
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/TheKelseyLawFirm/>
- **Twitter:** @kelseyfirm
- **Instagram:** @kelseyfirm

*Please also note that throughout my career, I have been committed to educating and empowering the layperson through my educational blog posts of legal articles, which can be found at [www.marylandlawyerkelsey.wordpress.com](http://www.marylandlawyerkelsey.wordpress.com). So far, my blog has been viewed almost than 7,000 times, since its inception in July, 2013. Some articles have also been published on [www.Lawyers.com](http://www.Lawyers.com). The articles include but are not limited to the following:*

- *The New Year. A Time to Thank and Recommit to Clients, Old and New (January 2016)*
- *When the Other Driver Doesn't Have Enough Insurance (A True Story) (March 2015)*
- *When Does a Withdrawal from a Joint Bank Account Become a Crime? (March 2015)*
- *Chapter 13 Bankruptcy, A Tough Road. Is it Right for You? (February 2015)*
- *No, You Most Likely Can Not Get an Annulment! (February, 2015)*
- *Winning With a Pen. A Presidential Move Indeed (February 2015)*
- *"Will" You Leave an Heir or a Legatee? It's Your Choice. (February 2015)*
- *Volunteering. What Better Way to Say Thanks. (January 2015)*
- *Finding Joy at the Courthouse. A Christmas Eve Reminder. (December 2014)*
- *Protecting Your American Dream. Why Some Heirs May Never Receive Their Inheritance. (May 2014)*
- *Applying for a Loan Modification? Watch Out for Foreclosure! (May 2014)*
- *13 Tips to Control Your Legal Bill (It's All About Time and Money). (May 2014)*
- *Wake Up! You're Under Arrest for DUI. (May 2014)*
- *"X" Marks the Spot. The Safest Place to Keep a Will. (April 2014)*
- *Living Wills and Health Care Directives. Are They Really Necessary (A Personal Story). (April 2014)*
- *Resurrecting Civil Litigation. An Easter Wish. (April 2014)*
- *Those Who Represent Themselves. The Lost and Turned Out. (April 2014)*
- *Taxes, Penalties and Interest, Oh My! What You Can Do Today to Reduce or Eliminate Your Ultimate Tax Liability. (April 2014)*
- *Baby Boomers. Save Your Retirement Accounts. File For Bankruptcy BEFORE You Go Broke. (March 2014)*
- *Snow, Ice and Freezing Rain. Who Will be at Fault When You Slip and Fall? (March 2014)*
- *There Can't be a Judgment Against Me. I was Never Served, Right? (January 2014)*
- *What A Difference a Minute Makes. (Foreclosures) (January 2014)*
- *It May be Time to File Bankruptcy When.... (January 2014)*
- *2014 Resolution – Lose Weight, Stop Smoking & Expunge Criminal Records (Maryland) (January 2014)*
- *A New Year to Clean Up Your Credit Report (Jan 2014)*
- *Alternative Dispute Resolution. Tis the Season....to be Reasonable (A Christmas Eve Thought) (December 2013)*
- *Corporal Punishment – When is it Abuse? (December 2013)*
- *Cross-Collateralization. When Can a Credit Union Hold Your Car Title Hostage? When You Let Them. Dec.2013)*
- *What You Need to Know During the Holidays if You're Considering a New Year Bankruptcy. (November 2013)*
- *Consider Tomorrow When You Co-Sign Today. (November 2013)*
- *If I am Currently Delinquent on My Association Dues, Can I Renew My Rental Housing License in Prince George's County? (August 2013)*
- *Am I Responsible for the Payment of My Deceased Loved One's Debts? Well, Maybe. (August 2013)*
- *How Do I Sue and Serve the Right Business Defendant? (July 2013)*
- *When Should I Update My Will? (July 2013)*



- *Does Money Left in My Bank Account Have to Go Through Probate? (July 2013)*
- *I Gave Up My Condo. Am I Still Responsible for Condo Assoc. Dues? (July 2013)*
- *Can I File Another Bankruptcy, to Save My Home, If I Received a Bankruptcy Discharge Less Than Eight (8) Years Ago? (July 2013)*
- *Will Old Girlfriend Receive My Husband's Insurance Death Benefits? (July 2013)*
- *Are Charged Off Debts Uncollectible Debts? (July 2013)*

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*On the coversheet of this application, directly under QUALIFICATIONS OF A MARYLAND JUDGE, it is noted that “the qualifications of a judge falls into two quite distinct categories: (1) legal and (2) professional and personal. The application goes on to inquire about the applicant’s personal history, education, law practice (including bar memberships and activities and awards), business and civic involvement (including past work experience and charitable and/or civic involvement) and finally conduct. In the time I’ve spent reviewing the applications of others and preparing my own, it is clear to me that the categories are placed in a clear attempt to allow the applicant to provide information that would allow the Commission and the Governor an opportunity to evaluate the applicant’s worthiness to receive a seat on the Prince George’s County District Court Bench. The concerns are education, knowledge, adaptability, flexibility, professionalism, demeanor and a real commitment to the bar and the public. I believe that my application more than adequately addresses these issues.*

*First, and with respect to the legal aspect of my qualifications, please note that I started an independent life and supporting myself at the age of eighteen (18). If nothing else, it should be evident that I am a hard worker; one who brings her best to whatever task is at hand and one who works well with all others to get the job done. Being the flexible person that I am, it was easy for me to find jobs, in a variety of fields, in an effort to financially support myself. My willingness to engage in a variety of work has served to provide me with a wide range of knowledge in a variety of professional fields. I believe that this has proved to serve me well into my legal years.*

*During my twenty-three (23) years of practice, it has been necessary for me to adjust to changes in my practice and to re-invent myself on more than one occasion. This has afforded me the opportunity to learn and engage in a variety of litigation and legal practice areas, along with adhering to a variety of legal practice rules and procedures. The benefit of having the ability to be a “Renaissance Woman”, is that I am now prepared to enter into the judicial phase of what I’ve been practicing for many years. This includes laws surrounding debt disputes, homeowner complaints, collections, tort actions, replevins, landlord and tenant and neighborly and family disputes and more. While I have not practiced largely in any traffic or criminal areas, I was exposed to this area of law, in my early years, and have already begun refreshing my memory by taking CLE’s, in these areas, in an effort to be positive thinking and proactive towards preparing myself for the bench.*

*In addition to my education and experience, I also have direct procedural experience with preparing, handling and running many individual cases and civil case dockets in a variety of courts in the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia. As a result, I am proud to say that I have earned the trust and satisfaction of friends, clients, colleagues, judges, courthouse staff, local churches, local and state governmental agencies, bar associations, Governor O’Malley, as I previously served on the judicial nominating commission and the attorney grievance commission. Because of my commitment to professionalism, service and ethics, I do not take this level of recognition lightly, but strive every day to not only maintain it, but to increase that level of the satisfaction and trust.*

*In addition to my legal education and experience and as one who has had to fend for herself from such a young age, I am more than empathetic to the needs and concerns of the layperson. While I did not have issues that involved the court system, I lived through a period of time, wherein the older community did not want to take seriously, the plight, trials and tribulations of an independent young woman. Little things like entering into contracts, negotiating wage increases and job promotions, signing apartment leases, purchasing a car, disputing an overcharge and dealing with the Department of Motor Vehicles, all very difficult things to deal with when everyone sees you as a child. As such, I had to, when necessary, learn how to successfully present my position and argue my case, in an effort to make it through everyday life. With this experience, I remain connected to the layperson, knowing what it's like to have a dispute, to have to miss a day of work and a day of pay. More importantly, I know what it's like to want and need to be heard and most of all, to be treated fairly.*

*With respect to my bar, charitable and civic involvement, I believe that my application shows that I have a real and long-standing commitment to the field of law, my colleagues, any younger attorney who seeks or needs help and the public. This level of commitment and service spans back decades. It is a true commitment that results from my upbringing and the help that I received in my past years. It's a commitment that I will stand behind and continue to engage in, for years to come, should I be fortunate enough to receive an appointment to the bench.*

*Finally, as a sole practitioner, while rare, I am keenly aware of the impact of a late seated judge, a judge who may not be paying attention, a judge who may seem to have a predisposition, a judge who may seem to be engaging in some level of favoritism and/or a judge who may overstep the bounds of legal respect and professionalism while on the bench. With this knowledge, it is my intent to never be that judge, but to be the judge that arrives on time, to be the judge that respects the time of the litigants and the attorneys, to be the judge that is prepared and ready to listen with a fair ear and to be the judge that shows nothing but respect to all persons, in and out of the courthouse. In other words, like my law practice, like my bar involvement, like my commitment to the community and like my commitment to my family and friends, I want to be the best judge I can be. With that, I humbly request your consideration for the bench.*

*Thank you for your time!*