

PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Write your full name.

KATE FORD ELLIOTT

2. Date and place of birth:

JUNE 8, 1949, PITTSBURGH, PA.

3. Family status:

a) Are you married? If so, state the date of marriage and your spouse's full name, including maiden name, if applicable:

YES, FREDERICK B. ELLIOTT, October 31, 1981.

b) Since assuming your current judicial position, have you been divorced? If so, state the date, the number of the case and the court:

NO.

4. Have you had any military service? If so,

a) Provide dates, branch of service, rank of rate, serial number and present status:

NO

b) Have you ever been rejected or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable? If so, please provide details:

NO

5. List each college and law school you attended, including dates of attendance, and the degrees awarded.

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL, J.D., 1978

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY, MS, DEC, 1973

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, B.A., April, 1971, cum laude

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY, 1967-1969

6. For the last five years or portion thereof during which you have held judicial office, please indicate:

a) The percentage of your time devoted to:

1. Civil: 45%

2. Criminal:

55%

Based on the Superior Courts' caseload

3. Other:

4. Administrative responsibilities: *I have served as President Judge of the Superior Court since Jan. 2006 - also service through the years on court committees*

b) Please identify ten (10) of the more significant opinions you have rendered and citations thereto if the cases were reported:

*List of cases attached*

7. Are you now an officer or director or otherwise actively engaged in the management of any business enterprise? If so, please provide details, including the name of the business enterprise, the nature of the business, the title or other description of your position, the nature of your duties and the term of your service:

*NO.*

8. Since assuming your current judicial position, have you been arrested, charged with or convicted of violating any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? If so, please provide details. Do not include summary traffic offenses:

*NO*

9. Are you under any ongoing federal, state or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If so, please provide particulars:

*NO.*

10. Since assuming your current judicial position, has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? If so, please provide particulars:

*NO*

11. Since assuming your current judicial position, have you been a party to or otherwise been involved in any other legal proceedings? If so, please provide particulars. Do not list proceedings in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or stakeholder. Do include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, a material witness, were named as co-conspirator or a co-respondent and any grand jury investigation in which you figured as a subject or in which you appeared as a witness:

*As a judge, I am often named as a defendant in federal filings involving prison cases, otherwise no.*

12. Since assuming your current judicial position, have you been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If so, please provide particulars:

*I have never been notified of any judicial discipline proceedings or filings against me*

13. If you so desire, please list any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition, which you have received (including any indication of academic distinction in college or law school).

*Duquesne University Distinguished Alumni Award  
Allegheny County St. Thomas More Award  
Carlow College Woman of Spirit Award.*

14. In the space provided below, if desired, please provide any additional comments concerning your retention candidacy.

*I have had the great privilege to serve on the Superior Court for the last twenty years. During this time, I have participated in over 12,000 decisions of the court. I consider the most important aspect of my role as a judge to never forget that each of those cases involves another person's life, liberty or property.*

15. Did you sign the PBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Guidelines? (Please return signed pledge with completed questionnaire.)

*I did not receive a copy of the pledge, but would be happy to do so, as I have several times in the past.*

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

The undersigned certifies that all of the statements made in this questionnaire are true, complete and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief and are made in good faith.

KATE FORD ELLIOTT  
Type or print name

Kate Ford Elliott  
Signature

7/1/09  
Date

*In re Estate of Harper*, \_\_\_ A.2d \_\_\_, 2009 WL 1510255 (Pa.Super. filed June 1, 2009).

*Lugo v. Farmers Pride, Inc.*, 967 A.2d 963 (Pa.Super. 2009).

*Toth v. Donegal Companies*, 964 A.2d 413 (Pa.Super. 2009).

*Employers Mut. Cas. Co. v. Boiler Erection and Repair Co.*, 964 A.2d 381 (Pa.Super. 2008).

*In re K.K.*, 957 A.2d 298 (Pa.Super. 2008).

*Snead v. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Pennsylvania*, 929 A.2d 1169 (Pa.Super. 2007), *appeal granted in part*, \_\_\_ Pa. \_\_\_, 966 A.2d 548 (2009).

*Southcentral Employment Corp. v. Birmingham Fire Ins. Co. of Pennsylvania*, 926 A.2d 977 (Pa.Super. 2007).

*Commonwealth v. Langston*, 904 A.2d 917 (Pa.Super. 2006).

*Generette v. Donegal Mutual Ins. Co.*, 884 A.2d 266 (Pa.Super. 2005) (*en banc*) (Ford Elliott, J., dissenting), *reversed*, 598 Pa. 505, 957 A.2d 1180 (2008).

*Commonwealth v. Perry*, 883 A.2d 599 (Pa.Super. 2005).

*Commonwealth v. Alford*, 880 A.2d 666 (Pa.Super. 2005), *appeal denied*, 586 Pa. 720, 890 A.2d 1055 (2005).

*In re F.P.*, 878 A.2d 91 (Pa.Super. 2005).

*Commonwealth v. Brooks*, 875 A.2d 1141 (Pa.Super. 2005).

*In re Petition to Compel Cooperation with Child Abuse Investigation*, 875 A.2d 365 (Pa.Super. 2005).

*Elliott v. Ionta*, 869 A.2d 502 (Pa.Super. 2005).

***Trach v. Fellin***, 817 A.2d 1102 (Pa.Super. 2003) (*en banc*), *appeal denied*, 577 Pa. 725, 847 A.2d 1288 (2004).

**PRESIDENT JUDGE KATE FORD ELLIOTT**

Superior Court of Pennsylvania  
Suite 1660, Two Chatham Center  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219  
(412) 565-7670

**PRESENT POSITION:**

**President Judge**, Superior Court of Pennsylvania since January, 2006.

**Judge**, Superior Court of Pennsylvania since 1990. The Superior Court is an intermediate appellate court entertaining appeals from all 67 counties in Pennsylvania. As a court of general and residual jurisdiction, the Superior Court decides criminal and civil matters and cases involving divorce, support, custody, wills and estates, and matters of property and commerce.

**PRIOR LEGAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Attorney**, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart. November, 1988 to October, 1989. Associated with the firm and worked with the litigation group. Kirkpatrick & Lockhart is the second largest law firm in the city of Pittsburgh with a heavy litigation caseload in state and federal court.

**Chief Staff Attorney**, Superior Court of Pennsylvania, June, 1982 to January, 1988. Responsible for the supervision of a department of seventeen staff attorneys and six secretaries in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia offices. Central Legal Staff serves as an in-house counsel department for the Superior Court advising judges and law clerks on substantive and procedural matters before the court. Under the direction of the President Judge, the Chief Staff Attorney is responsible for the development and supervision of appeal screening procedures for the court; the review of petitions and motions filed by counsel for presentation to the court for disposition; the general supervision of all conflict assessment staff attorney teams and review of all potential opinion conflict situations; review of all reargument applications; the administration of the court's accelerated docket; the development of a computerized issue-tracking index within the court; and the ongoing development of internal operating procedures for managing the volume and complexity of the court's appeal caseload; and the creation of a fast track program for appeals involving children.

**Administrative Assistant to former President Judge William F. Cercone**, Superior Court of Pennsylvania, August, 1980 to June, 1982. Served President Judge Cercone during a time when the Superior Court was expanded from a seven-judge to a fifteen-judge court. (December, 1980) Assisted the President Judge in the coordination of the

operations of the Judges' chambers, the Prothonotary and Central Legal Staff offices; budget formulation and space planning for judicial and administrative operations; the development of internal operating procedures for the court and the planning and organization of annual education conferences for the judges of the court.

**Judicial Law Clerk** to Harry M. Montgomery, Senior Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, January, 1978 to August, 1980. Involved the research and preparation of draft opinions for the Judge's approval in all areas of civil, criminal and family law within the Superior Court's general jurisdiction; as senior clerk, assisted in the supervision and evaluation of other clerks and legal interns, as well as the general supervision of the operations of the office.

#### **PRELEGAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Reading Specialist**, Pittsburgh Board of Education, September, 1971 to January, 1978. Certified to work with both developmental and remedial reading disabilities. Handled both individual and classroom teaching. Primary experience in inner-city schools with additional responsibility for coordination of reading programs in one school.

#### **EDUCATION:**

**LEGAL:** Duquesne University School of Law, Evening Division, J.D., May, 1978.

**GRADUATE:** Duquesne University, M.S., (Education), December, 1973

**UNDERGRADUATE:** University of Pittsburgh, B.A., (Education), April, 1971.

#### **FORMER BAR ADMISSIONS:**

Admitted to Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, November, 1978.

Admitted to United States District Court, Western Pennsylvania, October, 1978.

Admitted to United States Supreme Court, June, 1982.

#### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

Secretary-Treasurer, Council of Chief Judges of State Courts of Appeal.

American Bar Association; Judicial Administration Division, National Conference of Appellate Staff Attorneys, Chairperson, Publication Committee, 1983-1985, Secretary, Executive Board, 1985-1986 term, Chairperson, Education Committee, 1987-1988.



Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

Fellow of the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Pennsylvania Bar Association; Appellate Practice Committee, Commission on Justice Initiatives.

Pennsylvania Futures Commission.

National Association of Women Judges.

Women's Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania.

The American Judicature Society.

#### **LAW-RELATED ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS:**

Lecturer/Panelist to Bar Association Groups and Prothonotaries' Associations on Appellate Court Practice and Procedure. The following is a representative sampling:

Pennsylvania State Trial Judges Conference.

Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Continuing Legal Education and Ethics programs.

Philadelphia Bar Association.

Allegheny County Bar Association, Appellate Practice Sessions, Bridge-the-Gap Programs.

Allegheny County Academy of Trial Lawyers.

National Center for State Courts, Northeastern Regional Conference on Court Administration, Fall, 1983.

Co-Chair of the 1997 Pennsylvania Bar Association's Women in the Profession Conference. The conference was dedicated to family court reform with special emphasis on how the court system impacts the lives of children.

Served as Vice Chair of the Pennsylvania Futures Commission on Justice in the 21st Century established by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The purpose of the Futures Commission is to envision the state justice system into the next century and determine

what improvements need to be implemented now to meet the challenges facing courts in the future.

**SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:**

Served on Board of Directors of Duquesne University for 10 years.

Served on Board of Directors of Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers of Pennsylvania, Inc., a statewide non-profit organization helping lawyers with drug and alcohol dependency problems.

Served on Board of Directors of WQED Pittsburgh, the parent corporation for public broadcasting stations WQED, WQEX, WQED-FM and Pittsburgh Magazine.

Served on Board of Directors and as Endowment Trustee for Arsenal Children and Family Services, a community-based family services organization for children at risk.

Served on Board of Advisors of Successful Women, a monthly community affairs publication centering on women.