

## PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

1. State your full name: Michael Anthony George

Have you ever been known by any other name? If so, please list. no

2. Office address (include zip code): 117 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Office telephone (include area code): (717)337-9847

Name of law firm, if associated: n/a

3. Date and place of birth: February 25, 1959; McKeesport, PA

4. Are you a naturalized citizen? If so, give date and place of naturalization: n/a

5. 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; September 16, 1989; Karen Shanebrook George

b) Have you been divorced? If so, state the date, the number of the case and the court: no

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

a) Give dates, branch of service, rank of rate, 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, give details:

no

7. List each college and law school you attended, including dates of attendance, and the degrees awarded and, if you left any institution without receiving a degree, the reason for leaving. List scholastic honors:

see attached

8. List all jurisdictions in which you have applied to take a bar examination, have applied for admission or have been admitted to practice. Include dates of admissions and if not admitted, give application dates and explain the outcome.

Pennsylvania - admitted November 1985

9. Describe chronologically your law practice and experience after your graduation from law school and until you became a member of the judiciary, including:

- a) Whether you served as clerk to a judge and, if so, the name of the judge, the court, and the dates of the period you were a clerk:

n/a

- b) Whether you practiced alone and, if so, the addresses and the dates:

n/a

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

see attached

- d) Any other relevant particulars:

served as solicitor to municipal agencies while in private practice

10. a) What was the general character of your practice, dividing it into periods with dates if its character changed over the years?

see attached

- b) Describe your typical clients and mention the areas, if any, in which you concentrated your practice:

see attached

11. What judicial office do you now hold? State whether you have been appointed or elected and the dates thereto. Describe the jurisdiction of such court and any limitations thereon. Have you ever held any other judicial office? If so, please state the offices, courts and the periods of such service. Please describe the jurisdiction of each of such courts, with any limitations upon the jurisdiction of each court:

see attached

12. For the last five years or portions thereof during which you have held judicial office, indicate,

- a) The nature of typical matters which came before you:

see attached

- b) The per centage of your time devoted to:

1. Civil: 35%

2. Criminal: 35%

3. Other: Administrative 25%  
Miscellaneous 5% (tax assessment appeals,  
municipal appeals, election  
issues)

c) The percentage of your time devoted to:

1. Jury: 5%
2. Non-jury: 60%
3. Appellate argument: Rule 1925 Opinions 10%
4. Other: Administrative 25%

d) Five of the more significant opinions you have rendered and citations thereto if the cases were reported:

- Commonwealth v. Christopher Johnson, 53 ACLJ 347 (April 20, 2012)  
Thornton, et al v. Liberty Township Bd. of Supervisors,  
51 ACLJ 271 (February 19, 2010)  
Cullison v. Gettysburg Economic Development Corp.,  
53 ACLJ 6 (May 27, 2011)  
Phillips v. Gettysburg Hospital Cardiac Diagnostic Assoc., P.C.,  
et al, 54 ACLJ 178 (October 26, 2012)  
Levan v. Mason-Dixon Resorts GP, LLC, 54 ACLJ 93 (August 10, 2012)

13. If a substantial portion of your practice had been before administrative boards, commissions or agencies during the five years before you became a member of the judiciary, identify the boards, commissions or agencies before which you practiced and estimate percentages of practice time devoted thereto:

n/a

14. If a substantial portion of your practice had been before Appellate courts during the five years before you became a member of the judiciary, identify the Appellate Courts before which you have practiced and estimate percentages of practice time devoted thereto:

Pennsylvania Superior Court >7%  
Pennsylvania Supreme Court >2%  
U.S. District Court (Middle District) 1%

15. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, give details, including the office involved, whether elected or appointed, and the length of your services, giving dates: Adams County District Attorney: elected to term commencing January 1996. Re-elected January 2000. Left office when elected to Court of Common Pleas January 2002. When first elected, the position of District Attorney was part-time. In June 1996, I became Adams County's first full-time District Attorney (this pre-dates the statutory change in the law requiring full-time District Attorneys)

16. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates:

no

17. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law or the holding of judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including dates:

no

18. Are you now an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? If so, give details, including the name of your 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

19. Have you ever 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, give details. Do not include summary traffic offenses:

no

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

no

21. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? If so, give particulars:

no

22. If requested, will you submit certified copies of your latest tax returns (including Federal Income Tax)?

yes

23. Prior to taking the bench, were you ever sued by a client? If so, give particulars:

no

24. Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in any other legal proceedings? If so, give the particulars. Do not list proceedings in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or stakeholder. 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:

yes; Goldhaber v. William Higgins et al, U.S. District Court, No. 3:06-CV-00134-KRG (Western District). I have also been a named defendant in several actions as a member of the Adams County Prison Board and as District Attorney. All proceedings were favorably disposed of through pre-trial, withdrawal, objections or motions.

25. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct or has any complaint against you been filed with the Court of Judicial Discipline? If so, give the particulars:

see attached

26. What is the present state of your health? (If any medical condition or issue exists, you may be requested to execute a medical record authorization form as part of the interview process.)

Annual physicals indicate I am in good health.

27. Do any circumstances exist that would affect your ability to perform the function of the position you seek or fulfill the term of office? If so, please explain:

no

28. Furnish at least five examples of legal articles, law review articles, briefs, or other legal writings which reflect your personal work. If briefs are submitted, indicate the degree to which they represent your personal work:

see answer to 12(d) above

29. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups. List chairmanships of any committees in bar associations and professional societies and memberships on any committees which you believe to be of particular significance (e.g., judicial selection committee, disciplinary committee, grievance committee).

see attachment

30. List your experiences in teaching and lecturing, including law school, continuing legal education, both for the legal community and the judiciary, and to non-legal audiences.

panelist at P.B.I. course

31. List all organizations other than bar associations, professional associations or societies of which you are or have been a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations:

Catholic War Veterans, Bonneauville, Pa.  
American Legion, Gettysburg, Pa.  
Knights of Columbus, McSherrystown, Pa.  
Gettysburg Little League Baseball  
Lower Adams Pony League  
Gettysburg Youth Soccer Association  
St. Francis Xavier Athletic Association

32. 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) other than those mentioned in answers to the foregoing questions.

see attached

33. State any other information which may reflect positively or adversely on you or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for an election/retention to an Appellate Court of Pennsylvania.

I have a broad range of both personal and professional experience which permits a real world view of the complex issues before the Court. I am completely free of any affiliations or loyalties which might otherwise cause me to make a decision for reasons other than upon the merits.

34. Why do you wish to become a Justice or Judge? What special strengths do you feel you possess that would particularly well qualify you for the position of Justice or Judge?

see attached

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

yes



7. Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, PA  
1977-1981  
Bachelor of Arts, cum laude  
Political Science (major), Economics (minor)  
Political Science Honorary, Economics Honorary  
Sons of the American Revolution Medal  
Lauri Scholarship

The Dickinson School of Law, Carlisle, PA  
1982-1985  
Juris Doctorate  
Journal of International Law  
Trial Moot Court Board  
International Appellate Moot Court Team (alternate)

9. c) Campbell & White, 122 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA  
Associate 1985-1992

Campbell, White & George, 122 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA  
Partner 1992-1996

Adams County District Attorney  
1996-2001  
Position initially part-time however became full-time in June 1996

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Judge, 51<sup>st</sup> Judicial District (Adams County)  
Elected 2001; took office January 2002; retained 2011

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
President Judge, 51<sup>st</sup> Judicial District (Adams County)  
2013-current

10. a) Private practice consisted of a general practice with concentration in criminal defense, family law, and civil litigation. During entire career in private practice, I contracted with Adams County to handle criminal cases in which the Public Defender's Office had conflict. As a result, my private practice shifted over time to a greater percentage of criminal cases. A small percentage of practice was devoted to municipal law as Conewago Township Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor, Assistant Solicitor to Adams County, and support for other attorneys in office who concentrated on municipal law.

The duties of the District Attorney are statutorily imposed.

10. b) My criminal defense practice included both private clients and indigent clients through the conflict contract. In the civil arena, I represented plaintiffs in personal injury actions; businesses and individuals as both plaintiffs and defendants in contract actions, municipalities, and quasi-judicial boards in municipal law; and both plaintiffs and defendants in divorce, support, custody, or protective actions. Occasionally, I would represent either a landlord or tenant (usually pro bono) in eviction litigation.

As District Attorney, I represented the citizens of Adams County including law enforcement, victims, and those accused.

11. President Judge, 51<sup>st</sup> Judicial District (Adams County)
- Elected fall 2001 for term beginning January 2002
  - Retained fall of 2011 for term beginning January 2012
  - Became President Judge in January 2013 after two more tenured senior Judges deferred position
  - The Court of Common Pleas is a general trial court including criminal, civil, family matters, and appeals from minor courts and some administrative bodies

12. a) Criminal and civil litigation including all complex litigation, i.e. capital/murder cases, medical malpractice, and complex contractual issues. Occasionally, I will cover for dependency/delinquency court. Until approximately three years ago, I also handled subdivision and land development issues.

25. I have never been disciplined or cited however complaints have been filed under the following case numbers all of which were summarily dismissed upon preliminary inspection:

- JCB Complaint 2007-503
- JCB Complaint 2008-267
- JCB Complaint 2008-541
- JCB Complaint 2011-049
- JCB Complaint 2011-430
- JCB Complaint 2012-514
- JCB Complaint 2012-552
- JCB Complaint 2013-485

It is possible others may have been filed which I missed, but if so, they have also been summarily dismissed.

- 29.
- Member Pennsylvania Bar Association
  - Member Adams County Bar Association (former President)
  - Former Executive Committee Member Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges (Zone 3 Representative)
  - Chairman Adams County Criminal Justice Advisory Board
  - Former Executive Committee Member Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association (Training Committee Chairman)
  - Former Member Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute
  - Former Appointee Governor's Commission on Juvenile Crime
  - Former Member Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys

- 32.
- 2007 Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges "Golden Crowbar Award" for significantly advancing the goals of the judicial system
  - "Man of the Year Award" State Association of Catholic War Veterans for dedication to veterans
  - "Optimist International Law Enforcement Award" presented by the Optimist Club of Gettysburg for distinguished service advancing respect for the law
  - "Annual Recognition Award" presented by Healthy Adams County's Domestic Violence Task Force for commitment to strengthening the criminal justice response to domestic violence
  - Recognized by the Greater Gettysburg N.A.A.C.P. for promoting diversity, equality, and unity in the community

- Member of the Court which received the 2010 Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence presented by the Department of Community and Economic Development

34. I have experience in almost every area of the law. In the criminal arena, I have worked with those falsely accused or have a family member suffering from addiction. I have also experienced the trauma of those victimized by rape or other serious crime. I have viewed just about every criminal law, including capital cases, from the perspective of defendant, prosecutor, victim, and judge. In the civil arena, I have significant experience in civil litigation, family law, and municipal law and understand the ramifications which appellate decision making has on the practical aspects of practicing law in these areas. Most significantly, I appreciate the concept that elected officials serve at the will of the people and have been honored with the trust to protect and enhance important institutions of government for future generations of those we serve. It is important to me that respect for the legal profession and the Courts be earned by how we do our jobs.