

PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Write your full name:

Judith Ference Olson

2. Date and place of birth:

October 19, 1957
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. October 3, 1981
James Robert Olson

- 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) Give dates, branch of service, rank of rate, and present status:

No. N/A

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

No. N/A

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

Albright College

Reading, Pennsylvania

Attended 9/75 to 12/76

Honors: Dean's List

Transferred to college closer to home

St. Francis College (University)

Loretto, Pennsylvania

Attended 1/77 to 5/79

Awarded Bachelor of Arts Degree (Major - Political Science; Minor - Theatre Arts)

Honors: *Magna Cum Laude* graduate; Dean's List; National Catholic Colleges and Universities Honor Society; Alpha Psi Omega National Honorary Theatre Fraternity

Duquesne University School of Law

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Attended 9/79 to 6/82

Awarded Juris Doctor Degree

Honors: *Cum Laude* graduate; Class Rank - 2; Duquesne University School of Law Scholarship (1981 and 1982 - based on grade point average); Corpus Juris Secundum Honor Recipient; Member of Law Review; Gorley Cup Trial Moot Court Finalist (awarded best advocate for trial award)

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: 35%
2. Criminal: 45%
3. Other: 10%
4. Administrative responsibilities: 10%

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

It is difficult to identify ten "significant" opinions as every decision I render is significant to the parties involved. However, the following are ten decisions that garnered attention. Moreover, the following list reflects the diverse legal issues with which I have dealt while serving on the Pennsylvania Superior Court:

Drew v. Work, 95 A.3d 324 (Pa. Super. 2014) (Plaintiff entitled to a jury instruction regarding the sudden emergency doctrine in a motor vehicle accident case even though two vehicles involved were traveling in the same direction).

Commonwealth v. Hale, No. 2940 EDA 2014 (Pa. Super. Sept. 23, 2016) (Appellant entitled to hearing under the Post Conviction Relief Act as to timeliness of Appellant's claim where scientific interpretation of raw data of blood samples may not have been known at the time of trial).

Valentino v. Philadelphia Triathlon, LLC, 150 A.3d 483 (Pa. Super. 2016), (*en banc*), *appeal granted* 168 A.3d 1283 (Pa. 2017) (Defendant could rely on liability waiver signed by deceased triathlon participant to bar widow's wrongful death claim).

Branton v. Nicholas Meat, LLC, 159 A.3d 540 (Pa. Super. 2017) (Agricultural operation is lawful if it substantially complies with relevant federal, state and local laws).

Commonwealth v. Butler, 173 A.3d 1212 (Pa. Super. 2017), *appeal granted* 190 A.3d 581 (Pa. 2018) (Sexual Offenders Registration Notification Act (SORNA) is unconstitutional to the extent that it permits a trial court to determine whether the Commonwealth proved by clear and convincing evidence that defendant was a sexually violent predator and, therefore, subject to enhanced registration requirements).

Commonwealth v. Foust, 180 A.3d 416 (Pa. Super. 2018) (Individual sentences, rather than the aggregate sentence, much be considered when determining whether the trial court imposed a term-of-years sentence which constitutes a *de facto* life without parole sentence).

Commonwealth v. Robertson, 186 A.3d 440 (Pa. Super. 2018), *appeal denied* 195 A.3d 852 (Pa. 2018) (The DL-26B form adopted by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (that advises motorists suspected of driving under the influence of the warnings regarding denial of consent to blood test) complies with United States Supreme Court precedent).

Straw v. Fair, 187 A.3d 966 (Pa. Super. 2018), *appeal denied* 202 A.3d 49 (Pa. 2019) (Triable issues of fact existed as to whether additional defendants owed duties of care to a motorist and his family and breached said duties; thus, a new trial was necessary).

Commonwealth v. Olds, 192 A.3d 1188 (Pa. Super. 2018), *appeal denied* 199 A.3d 334 (Pa. 2018) (Mandatory maximum term of life imprisonment for juveniles convicted of second-degree murder does not violate the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution).

M.L.S. v. T.H.-S., 195 A.3d 265 (Pa. Super. 2018) (Stepfather, a member of the nation's armed forces stationed away from mother and child, stands *in loco parentis* to child and, thus, has standing to pursue custody of child).

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:

I am currently a member of the Board of Trustees of St. Francis University. I am in my second four-year term which began in October, 2018.

8. Since assuming your current judicial position, 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, 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 legal proceeding? 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 co-respondent and any grand jury investigation in which you figured as a subject or in which you appeared as a witness:

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:

Since serving as a judge on the Pennsylvania Superior Court, I have received notification on two or three occasions from the Judicial Conduct Board that "complaints" were filed against me in my official capacity, but that the Judicial Conduct Board dismissed the complaints with no action being taken. As the procedures are confidential, I am not privy to the complaints that were filed and, therefore, cannot provide particulars although I am aware that one dealt with the fact that the panel on which I sat delayed in rendering a decision.

13. If you so desire, 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).

See Answer to question no. 5. In addition:

American Heart Association - Volunteer of the Year (1999)

Community Champion (1999)

"AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell

Member of Leadership Pittsburgh XX (2003-2004)

Noted by *Law & Politics Magazine* as a "Pennsylvania Super Lawyer"

for business litigation (2004 through 2008) and one of the top 50 female lawyers statewide (2004)

Induction into the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County (by invitation only) (2004)

Finalist selected by the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission for a position on the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania (July 2005)

Finalist selected by the U.S. Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Committee for position as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania (2002, 2003 and 2008)

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP first Community Service Award Recipient (2008)

North Hills School District Distinguished Alumni Award (2011)

"Highly Recommended" rating from the Allegheny County Bar Association for a position on the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (2008)

"Highly Recommended" rating from the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Commission for a position on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court (2015) and the Pennsylvania Superior Court (2009)

“Highly Recommended” rating from the Allegheny County Bar Association
Judicial Evaluation Committee for a position on the Pennsylvania
Supreme Court (2015) and the Pennsylvania Superior Court (2009)
“Recommended for Retention” rating from the Allegheny County Bar Association
(2109)

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

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a member of the Pennsylvania Superior Court since January, 2010. I believe that my tenure on the bench reflects that I strive to show respect, to be fair, and to act with integrity and honesty in everything that I do. Even if parties disagree with my decisions, I hope that I am thought of as being thoughtful, impartial, fair and articulate. It would be an honor to serve the Commonwealth as a Superior Court judge for a second ten-year term.

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

Yes.

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.

Judith Ference Olson

Type or print name



Signature

June 5, 2019