EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
OCTOBER 2026 FAIRFAX CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIAL SCREENING

KASEY HIGGINS MCNAMARA

Ms. McNamara received her B.A. in Psychology from Arizona State University in 2005 and her J.D. from Arizona Summit Law School (f/k/a Phoenix School of Law) in 2011. Ms. McNamara was admitted to the practice of law in Virginia in 2012 and was also admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia the same year. Ms. McNamara was admitted to practice in the District of Columbia in November 2025.

Ms. McNamara lives in Fairfax County, Virginia with her husband and two children.

EXPERIENCE AND LEGAL ABILITY

Ms. McNamara started her legal career practicing general civil litigation, primarily focusing on landlord tenant cases, with the Burger Law Firm from 2012 to 2014. Ms. McNamara then served with the Office of the Public Defender from 2014 to 2024, starting as an Assistant Public Defender and ultimately being promoted to Senior Trial Attorney. In this role, Ms. McNamara would also represent her clients in companion civil cases, pro bono, such as protective order hearings or civil forfeiture hearings.

In 2024, Ms. McNamara left the practice of criminal defense and returned to civil litigation at Mitchell Banks, PC, in the medical malpractice group. When Mitchell Banks, PC wound down its litigation practice, Ms. McNamara, to keep up her litigation practice, moved in June 2025 to Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker, LLP, with the medical malpractice group.

Ms. McNamara undoubtedly has substantial trial experience.

Currently, Ms. McNamara serves on the Fairfax County, City of Falls Church Community Services Board, which assists with providing resources to underserved communities within Fairfax County.

Ms. McNamara has also volunteered with Legal Services of Northern Virginia, where she has provided pro bono representation to clients seeking protective orders in cases involving domestic violence and other safety concerns.

Ms. McNamara has served as a Guardian *ad litem* in the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

FAIRNESS AND TEMPERAMENT

Ms. McNamara demonstrates judicial temperament, including common sense, compassion, humility, open-mindedness, patience, tact, and understanding.

PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY

Ms. McNamara is a former public defender and now works as a civil attorney in medical malpractice defense. She also serves on the Fairfax County/City of Falls Church Community

Services Board (CSB). She is a member of the Fairfax Bar Association (FBA), the Virginia Women Attorneys Association, has served on the FBA Judicial Screening Committee, and the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys.

Ms. McNamara acknowledges gaps in practice areas within the circuit court's purview (e.g. family law) and has undertaken meaningful steps to fill those gaps with CLEs, courtroom observation, and interactions with the bench and bar.

Ms. McNamara exhibits consistent adherence to high ethical standards, professionalism, and integrity in her practice of law.

OVERALL EVALUATION

The Committee was impressed with Ms. McNamara's qualifications and experience, as well as her prior public service. She has the integrity, diligence, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, and judicial temperament for this position.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDED