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January 24, 2019

Nancy Grace, President
C/o Whitney D.G. von Haam, Executive Director
Tenth Judicial District Bar
whitney@wakecountybar.org

Re: judgeship

Dear Ms. Grace:

I am writing to apply for nomination for the District Court Judgeship for District 10B in Wake County. I live in District 10B at 5325 Robbins Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610. (Attached is a copy of my Driver's License to show proof of residency.)

I fit the qualifications set forth in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7A-142 for nominees, and my basic qualifications are as follows: I graduated from Harvard College in June 1974 and from Harvard Law School in June 1977. I was duly licensed to practice law in 1977. My bar number is 7828. I have practiced law in this state since 1977 and in the District of Columbia, in government and private practice, since 1978.

I will address in this short letter my qualifications as to experience, integrity, professional competence, and judicial temperament.

Firstly, as to experience, I have had a very varied career. I started my career after graduation (1974) and passing the Bar Exam (1977) with a United States District Court Clerkship in the District of Columbia, followed by a second United States Court of Appeals Clerkship. From 1979-1983, I was an Assistant United States State Attorney (EDNC) handling civil and criminal cases in the 48 counties of Eastern North Carolina. I practiced law briefly in a small firm in Washington, DC (1983-1984) and then returned to North Carolina to work in the NC Attorney General's Office in the Medicaid Fraud and Tort Claims sections. From 1986-1987, I served as one of the first of six administrative law judges in the (then, newly established) Office of Administrative Hearings. I then returned to private practice to the firm of Adams, McCullough & Beard from 1987-1990 (now Parker Poe). From 1990-1995, I practiced law as a private practitioner in my own solo practice firm, handling criminal and civil cases in federal and state District and Superior Courts. From 1995-2012, I served as a Superior Court Judge in Wake County. From 2013 to present, I have been in private practice here in Wake County District and Superior Courts.

Throughout my career, I have demonstrated my integrity, diligence, and industry both as an attorney and as a public official. I have served on the 10th Judicial District Grievance Committee. I am currently on the Wake County Library Commission, and I was a Wake County Commissioner (1990-1994). I am a member of the Martin Street Baptist Church and also attend Kings Park International Church in Durham. I am also a life member of the NAACP.

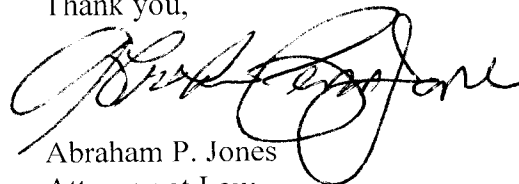
I have demonstrated, through a long and varied career, professional competence, intellectual acumen, and sound professional and personal judgment. I have also demonstrated my ability to write clearly and precisely, having filed numerous appellate briefs and written many orders and memoranda of law in my practice. Also, I was a judge over a long period of time. I have engaged in trial practice in state and federal court for much of my career, and I have done so exclusively since leaving the bench at the end of 2013. My experiences as a young law clerk, as well as my experiences as an Administrative Law judge and Superior Court judge, have given me wide-ranging knowledge of the practical areas of law. My practice experience in District Court (1990-1995) and presently (2013-present), have made me quite familiar with District Court practice.

My lengthy experience as a judge in Superior Court and as an Administrative Law judge has demonstrated my judicial temperament, which is the most important qualification of a jurist. I have shown my commitment to even-handedness, fairness, open-mindedness, and civility on the bench.

I live within District 10B and grew up in East Raleigh, attending Enloe High School before leaving to attend college and law school at Harvard. I have two grown daughters (ages 33 and 25), one of whom is a law student and the other the State Music Director at the North Carolina Arts Council. My hobbies are walking, swimming, studying politics, and visiting civil war battle fields.

I ask my fellow members of the Wake County Bar Association for their vote on February 15, 2019, and I thank you for your consideration.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abraham P. Jones', written in a cursive style.

Abraham P. Jones
Attorney at Law

Abraham Penn Jones

5325 Robbins Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27610

Phone: (919) 817-2711
abe.p.jones@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Legal and Judicial Expert Private Practice; Civil and Criminal Proceedings Jan. 2013 - Present
Currently engaged in solo practice of law in the areas of administrative law, traffic law, criminal law, personal injury, and employment law.

Educator (UNC Law School) Jan. 2008 to May 2016
Adjunct Professor in Trial Advocacy at UNC Law School

North Carolina Superior Court, 10th Judicial District (Wake County)
Superior Court Judge Aug. 1995 – Dec. 2012
Preside over civil and criminal jury trials, judge civil bench trials, hear civil and criminal motions and appeals from district court. Execute various administrative duties such as: assignment of counsel for indigents, approve pay vouchers for criminal defense attorneys and issue probation orders determining terms and conditions.

Law Offices of Abraham Penn Jones, Attorney-at-Law May 1990-Aug. 1995
Operated and managed my own law practice. Built up clientele. Practiced in the areas of employment law, criminal law and personal injury cases in both state and federal courts. Engaged in both trial and appellate practice in these three areas.

Adams, McCullough & Beard – Associate Mar. 1987 – May 1990
Worked in litigation section of firm concentrating primarily on commercial litigation, including depositions, appellate briefs, and motions practice in state and federal court.

North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings
Administrative Law Judge June 1986 – Feb. 1987
Heard, decided and issued recommended decisions in state administrative hearings involving agencies throughout North Carolina state government. One of five administrative law judges in the first central panel for hearing of appeals from decisions by administrative agencies within state government.

North Carolina Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General
Associate Attorney General Oct. 1984 – Mar. 1986
Medicaid Fraud Section and Tort Claim Section. Litigated in state superior court and the North Carolina Industrial Commission representing the state in trials, hearings, and appellate arguments.

Kirby, Gillick, Schwartz and Tuohey, LLP – Associate Sept. 1983 – Oct. 1984
Assisted partners in the firm with litigation in state and federal court. Represented some clients independently in the District of Columbia Superior Court and the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina

Assistant United States Attorney

May 1979 – Aug. 1983

Represented the federal government in civil and criminal matters in United States trial and appellate courts in matters ranging from criminal trials of felonies and misdemeanors, appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, civil trials and hearings from federal agencies within the Eastern District of North Carolina.

United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia

Circuit Court Clerk

Oct. 1978 – May 1979

Researched and briefed issues for appellate judges involving the motions practice before the circuit court of appeals.

United States District Court for the District of Columbia

Law Clerk to Chief Judge William B. Bryant, Jr.

Sept. 1977 – Oct. 1978

Researched and wrote drafts of opinions for federal district court judge.

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., 1977

Harvard College, A.B. in American History, *cum laude*, 1974

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member of the Bar, State of North Carolina, admitted 1977

Member of the Bar, District of Columbia, admitted 1978

Member of the Bar, United States Supreme Court, admitted 1984

Member of the Bar, United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, admitted 1979

Member of the Bar, United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit, admitted 1979

Member of the Bar, United States District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina, admitted 1979

Member of the Bar, United States District Court, District of Columbia

Member of the Bar, Tenth Judicial District, State of North Carolina

OTHER AFFILIATIONS/EXPERIENCE

Wake County Commissioner – Dec. 1990 – Dec. 1994

North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges

NAACP, Raleigh/Apex Chapter

Wake County Bar Association