

SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
Application Information for Publication

Date: August 30, 2020

Full name: Melissa Taylor Standridge

City of residence for the past ten years: Leawood, Kansas

List each college/university and law school attended, including degrees and dates earned.

University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law
Juris Doctor, *with distinction*, May 1993

University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas
Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, May 1984

Describe chronologically your employment since becoming a member of any state bar.

Kansas Court of Appeals, 02/08 – present
Appellate Judge

U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas, 10/99 – 02/08
Chambers Counsel to the Honorable David Waxse, United States Magistrate Judge

Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P., 9/95 – 9/99
Attorney

United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri, 8/93 – 8/95
Chambers Counsel to the Honorable Elmo B. Hunter, United States District Judge

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
APPLICANT INFORMATION FOR PUBLICATION**

DATE: September 1, 2020

FULL NAME: Christi LeAnn Bright

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS:

Overland Park

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

- University of Kansas school of law from August 1992 until May 1995 earned Juris Doctorate
 - Merit scholarship (1992 – 1995)
 - Legal Aid Clinic (1994 – 1995)
 - Legal Services for Prisoners (1994 – 1995)
 - Research assistant, Professor Reginald Robinson (1994 to 1995)
 - Black law Students association, president 1994 to 1995
 - Fourth; American law students, 1995 edition

- California State University Long Beach from August 1989 until May 1992 earned Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
 - Law society (1990 to 1992)
 - Associated students, Chief Justice of Judiciary (1990 to 1992)

- California State University Dominguez Hills from August 1987 to May 1989
 - No diploma awarded but began attending while in high school

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

16th Circuit Court Jackson County

May 1998 – November 1998

Law Clerk to the Honorable Stephen W. Nixon

308 W. Kansas, Independence, MO, 64050

I conducted legal research, preparing memos for my Judge, reviewing and drafting orders, communicating with counsel and assisting my Judge during court proceedings. I also served as a bailiff for the Court.

Contact Information:

415 E. 12th Street, Second Floor

Kansas City, MO 64106

(816) 881- 3355

The Bright Family Law Center, LLC, Christi L. Bright d/b/a Bright and Associates

November 1998 – present

Private Practice

14221 Metcalf Avenue, Suite 109

Overland Park, KS 66223

My office has varied from being a solo practitioner, at times, to having at least one additional attorney in my office. Regardless of the number of attorneys that have been in my firm, at any given time, I have always provided the administrative management of the practice. I have represented clients on matters to include divorce, paternity, custody, parenting time, maintenance, child support, relocation, adoption, guardianships, protection orders, and juvenile offenses. I have taken numerous depositions, issued business record subpoenas, retained and worked with expert witnesses, participated in bench trials, mediations, as well as dispositive motion hearings. I have also been appointed as a Guardian ad Litem to represent the best interest of children in both Child In Need of Care and civil matters and as a Case Manager in high conflict

disputes. I have also diversified my practice by including representation of dentists and dental offices with drafting and reviewing their contracts for the purchase and sale of practices, partnership and contractor agreements, policy revisions to their manuals as well as compliance matters related to their industry. I also serve as a Hearing Officer for the Kansas Department of Education presiding over Due Process complaints between parents and school districts throughout the State of Kansas. With the diversity of practice, high volume of work, and customized individual service given to each client, efficiency and time management is an absolute necessity in my office.

SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
Applicant Information for Publication

Date: September 2, 2020

Full Name: Kristen Diane Wheeler

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS:

Lawrence, Kansas
Topeka, Kansas
Wichita, Kansas

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

University of Kansas, Bachelor of Science in Biodiversity, Ecology, and Evolutionary Biology: August 1999 - May 2003

Washburn University School of Law, Juris Doctor with a Certificate in Natural Resources Law: August 2003 - May 2006

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

I was admitted to the Kansas Bar in September, 2006. I initially joined the firm of Morris, Laing, Evans, Brock & Kennedy, Chartered as an associate attorney, eventually becoming Of Counsel. While at Morris Laing I worked in the litigation department with a primary focus on personal injury, business litigation, and financial services. I also served as city prosecutor and city attorney for the city of Goddard, Kansas.

I left Morris Laing in October, 2016 to join Robinson Law Firm, LLC. At Robinson Law Firm I focused on real estate and business advising, and split my practice between transactional work and litigation. I also assisted with a number of federal criminal cases through the District of Kansas's criminal justice panel.

In August, 2018 I left Robinson Law Firm to join the chambers of The Honorable J. Thomas Marten with the United States District Court for the District of Kansas. I have served Judge Marten's Law Clerk since that time, providing substantive legal support to chambers while also serving as Judge Marten's courtroom deputy and judicial assistant.

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
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DATE: August 31, 2020

FULL NAME: Kim W. Cudney

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS:

Greenleaf, Kansas

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

Kansas State University, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1986

Washburn University School of Law, Juris Doctorate, 1989

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

Chief Judge 12th Judicial District	2006-current
Cudney Law Office	1997-2006
Washington County Attorney	1996-2006
Galloway, Wieggers & Heeney	1995-1997
McDowell, Rice & Smith	1993-1995
United States District Court Research Attorney, Chief Judge Patrick Kelly	1992-1991
Kansas Supreme Court Research Attorney, Justice Harold Herd	1989-1991

Rev. July 2020

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
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DATE: 8/31/2020

FULL NAME: Randall Lee Hodgkinson

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS:

Topeka, KS

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

Hutchinson Community College, Summer 1985
Wichita State University, B.S. Mathematics and Computer Science May 1989
Magna Cum Laude, University Honors
Graduate Coursework in Political Science 1992-95
Arizona State University, J.D. December 1991
Magna Cum Laude, Order of the Coif, Law Journal
Asbury Theological Seminary, M.Div. May 2020

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

Judicial Clerk, Arizona Court of Appeals, Phoenix, AZ 1992-1994
Assistant Public Defender, Sedgwick County Public Defender, Wichita, KS 1994-1995
Assistant Appellate Defender, Kansas Appellate Defender, Topeka, KS 1995-1997
Lecturer (Business Law), Park University, Parkville, MO 1996
Judicial Clerk, Arizona Court of Appeals, Phoenix, AZ 1997-1998
Associate, Law Offices of Stephen M. Lee, Kingman, AZ 1998-2000
Assistant Appellate Defender, Kansas Appellate Defender, Topeka, KS 2000-2001
Deputy Appellate Defender, Kansas Appellate Defender, Topeka, KS 2001-2006
Adjunct Professor of Law, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS 2005-2006
Assistant Appellate Defender, Kansas Appellate Defender, Topeka, KS 2006-present
Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS
2006-present

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
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DATE: August 21, 2020

FULL NAME: Cheryl Ann Rios

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS:

Topeka, Kansas

Tahlequah, Oklahoma

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, Kansas: Juris Doctorate, 1993

St. Mary of the Plains University, Dodge City, Kansas: Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1989

Stormont Vail School of Nursing, Topeka Kansas: Nursing Diploma, 1986

Washburn University, Topeka Kansas: Undergraduate nursing candidate, 1984

St. Mary's University, Leavenworth, Kansas: High School Advanced Placement, 1982

Benedictine College, Atchison, Kansas: High School Advanced Placement, 1981

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

Staff Attorney: Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Division of Law and Justice: August 1994 – September, 1995

Private Contractor: Kansas Mutual Medical Insurance Company; Topeka Kansas: September 1998 – March 2001

Solo/Private Practitioner: April 2000 – March 2001

Undergraduate Adjunct Professor, Washburn University: January, 2003 – August 2004

Assistant District Attorney, Shawnee County District Attorney's Office: March 2001 – September 2004

Project Coordinator, Kansas Criminal Justice Recodification, Rehabilitation & Restoration (CJ3Rs) Committee: January 2004 – February 2005

Judge, *pro tem*, City of Topeka Municipal Court: March 2004 – September 2005

Associate Judge, City of Topeka Municipal Court: September 2005 – September, 2008

District Court Judge, Third Judicial District Court of Shawnee County: October, 2008 to present

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
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Date: September 1, 2020

FULL NAME:

Victor Joseph Braden

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS:

Lawrence, Kansas

**LIST EACH COLLEGE AND LAW SCHOOL ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES
EARNED:**

- 1980 Pratt Community College, Associate of Science, Political Science, Pratt, Kansas
- 1982 Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Alva, Oklahoma
- 1995 University of Kansas, Master of Public Administration, Lawrence, Kansas
- 1997 Washburn University School of Law, Juris Doctor, Topeka, Kansas
- 2005 Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, Senior Service College Fellowship, Cambridge, Massachusetts

**DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A
MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR:**

- 1998 to 1999 United School Administrators of Kansas
- 1998 to 2004 Office of the Jefferson County Attorney
- 2005 to 2006 Office of the Riley County Attorney
- 1998 to 2018 Kansas Army National Guard
- 2006 to present Office of the Kansas Attorney General

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
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DATE: 8/25/2020

FULL NAME: Meryl Carver-Allmond

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS:

Lawrence, Kansas.

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

Pittsburg State University, Bachelor of Science in Justice Studies, May 17, 2003.

University of Kansas School of Law, Juris Doctorate, December 31, 2005.

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

Research Attorney, Kansas Court of Appeals Central Staff, February 2006-December 2006.

Research Attorney, Hon. Gary W. Rulon, Chief Judge, Kansas Court of Appeals, January 2007-February 2008.

Assistant Appellate Defender, Kansas Appellate Defender Office, February 2008-August 2012.

Capital Appellate Defender, Kansas Capital Appellate Defender Office, August 2012-Present.

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
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DATE: 8/18/20

FULL NAME: Russell J. Keller

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS: Fairway, Kansas

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

J.D., Northwestern University School of Law, Chicago, Illinois (5/19/96)
M.A., Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois (6/19/93)
B.A., Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois (6/20/92)

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

- (1) Northwestern University, School of Communication, Evanston, Illinois, Assistant Director, Northwestern University Debate Society (June 1996-December 1996)
- (2) U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois, Clerk for Judge John F. Grady (December 1996-December 1997)
- (3) Sidley Austin LLP, Chicago, Illinois, Associate (January 1998-July 1999, September 2000-October 2005)
- (4) U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, Lawrence, Kansas, Clerk for Judge Mary Beck Briscoe (August 1999-August 2000, September 2019-August 2020)
- (5) Stinson LLP, Kansas City, Missouri, Associate (October 2005-April 2008) and Partner (May 2008-January 2018)
- (6) Missouri Attorney General's Office, Kansas City, Missouri, Assistant Attorney General and Unit Leader for Litigation (February 2018-August 2019)

Rev. July 2020

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DATE: September 1, 2020

FULL NAME: Marcia Ann Wood

CITY OR CITIES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS: Wichita, KS

LIST EACH COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL YOU HAVE ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES AND DATES EARNED.

University of Kansas, Bachelor of Arts, December 1988

University of Kansas, Juris Doctor, May 1992

DESCRIBE CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR.

- United States District Court For the District of Kansas,
law clerk to Hon. Frank G. Thels, 1992 to 1998
- Hinkle Elkouri Law Firm, LLC, associate attorney, 1998 to 2006
- Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace + Bauer
- senior attorney, 2006 to 2007
- partner, 2008 to present

**SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION
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DATE: September 2, 2020

FULL NAME: Dennis Dale Depew

CITY OF RESIDENCE FOR PAST TEN YEARS: Neodesha, Kansas

LIST EACH COLLEGE AND LAW SCHOOL ATTENDED, INCLUDING DEGREES EARNED:

Independence Community College, Associate of Arts, 1978

University of Kansas, Bachelor of Business Administration, 1980

University of Kansas School of Law, Juris Doctor, 1983

LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY YOUR EMPLOYMENT SINCE BECOMING A MEMBER OF ANY STATE BAR:

September, 1983-May, 2015, partner in the Depew Law Firm, Neodesha, Kansas
May, 2015-present, Deputy Attorney General, Civil Litigation Division, Office of Kansas Attorney General.

FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS, LIST ALL PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC, SERVICE, CHARITABLE OR OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS OF WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN A MEMBER, INCLUDING TITLES OF ANY OFFICES WHICH YOU HAVE HELD:

Kansas Bar Association, Board of Governors, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President, President-Elect, President, Past President

Kansas Bar Association Diversity Committee & numerous other committees

Kansas Bar Foundation, Board of Trustees

National Conference of Bar Presidents

Southern Conference of Bar Presidents

Kansas Bar Foundation, Fellow Silver

Kansas Board of Discipline of Attorneys (1999-2014)

Wilson County Bar Association

Thirty First Judicial District Bar Association

Kansas Association of School Boards, Regional Director, President-Elect, President, Past President

Kansas School Attorneys Association

USD 461 Board of Education, 21 years

Neodesha High School Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, founder and President

Neodesha Education Foundation, founder and past board member

Neodesha Community Foundation, Secretary

Griffith Family Charitable Foundation, Secretary/Treasurer

John C. "Bill" Reece Charitable Trust, managing trustee

Tower Mental Health Foundation of Kansas, Secretary

Neodesha Lions Club

Neodesha Chamber of Commerce, member and Past President

Neodesha Arts Association, member and Past President

KU Honors Program site coordinator, Wilson and Neosho Counties, 25 years

Cubmaster, Pack 30, BSA