

PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE FOR LAWYER CANDIDATES

FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE IN LUZERNE COUNTY

All candidates for judicial office in Luzerne County are being asked to complete this questionnaire. The information that you provide will be used by the Pennsylvania Bar Association to enable it to inform the public of your qualifications for judicial office. The PBA will make this questionnaire public by posting it on this Web site: www.pavotesmart.com.

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- a. Full Name: STEPHEN ANTHONY MENUU
- b. Have you ever been know by any other name? yes no
If so, please state other name: _____
- c. Firm Name: LAW OFFICES OF STEPHEN A. MENUU
- d. Firm Address: 225 WYOMING AVE.
WEST PITTSBURGH PA. 15233
- e. Date of Birth: 11/26/58
- f. Law school where you obtained your law degree (Juris Doctor or equivalent):
THOMAS M. COOLEY
- g. Date you obtained your law degree: 9/18/83
- h. Are you a citizen of the United States? yes no
- i. Have you ever had any military service? yes no
If so, have you ever been rejected or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable? yes no

If so, give all details. _____

2. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

a. Are you now or have you ever been an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? _____ yes no

i. If so, give details, including the name of the enterprise, nature of the business, the title of your position, the nature of your duties and the term of your services:

b. Have you ever held any level of judicial office? _____ yes no

If so, give dates and details, whether elected or appointed and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court:

c. Have you ever held public office other than a judicial office? _____ yes no

If so, give details: _____

3. **PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:**

| a. | <u>Firm Name</u> | <u>Start Date/End Date (mo/yr)</u> |
|------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| i. | <u>LAW OFFICERS STEPHEN A. MENN</u> | <u>5/84 - 1/85</u> |
| ii. | <u>HOURIGAN, KLUGER, ET. AL</u> | <u>1/85 - 6/86</u> |
| iii. | <u>LAW OFFICERS STEPHEN A. MENN</u> | <u>6/86 - PRESENT</u> |
| iv. | _____ | _____ |

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and dates of admission.

PENNSYLVANIA MAY 1984
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PA. JAN. 1985

4. **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

a. List each college, university and law school you attended, including dates of attendance and degrees awarded:

| <u>School Name</u> | <u>Start Date</u> | <u>Graduation/End Date</u> | <u>Degree/Certificate Awarded</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>VILLANOVUE UNIVERSITY</u> | <u>9/76</u> | <u>5/80</u> | <u>B.S. ACCOUNTING</u> |
| <u>THOMAS M. COOLEY</u> | <u>9/80</u> | <u>8/83</u> | <u>J. D.</u> |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

5. **TRAINING AND BACKGROUND:**

- a. Describe in the space below any judicial-related training that you have received, including internships, clerkships, arbitrations, mediations, CLE course study, etc.

CLERKED IN LAW SCHOOL 1982, 1983
MINIMUM 12 CLE CREDITS EACH YEAR (ALL AREAS OF LAW)
ARBITRATOR IN CIVIL CASE, INSURANCE CASES, LABOR CASES
APPOINTED MASTER IN DIVORCE
PREVIOUSLY CERTIFIED TRIAL ATTORNEY FOR DEATH PENALTY

- b. State whether you are a special trial master in the Common Pleas Court of Luzerne County or a certified mediator for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Special Trial Master | <u> </u> yes | <u> X </u> no |
| Certified Mediator | <u> </u> yes | <u> X </u> no |

- c. Do you currently devote full time to the practice of law?
 X yes no

If not, how much time do you devote to the practice? 38-60 (hours per week)

- c. What is the general nature of your practice and if it has changed during the years?

General practice of law covering all areas
includes; criminal, domestic, Real Estate, Estates,
municipal work and all areas of civil representation
and litigation. This remains the same for the
past five - ten years.

- e. Describe your practice with particular areas of concentration, if any. _____

See above

f. With respect to the last five years:

i. Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally or not at all?

REGULARLY

ii. The percentage of these appearances was the following:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Federal Court | <u>5</u> |
| State Courts of Record | <u>80</u> |
| Other courts/administrative agencies or other forums | <u>15</u> |

iii. The percentage of your litigations was the following:

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| Civil | <u>35</u> |
| Criminal | <u>65</u> |

6. **LITIGATION:**

Whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel or associate counsel within the last five years, state the following:

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| a. The number of civil jury trials you have tried to verdict. | <u>0</u> |
| b. The number of civil bench trials you have tried to verdict. | <u>1</u> |
| c. The number of mandatory arbitrations you have tried to verdict. | <u>10-15</u> |
| d. The number of underinsured motorist cases you have tried in arbitration. | <u>3</u> |
| e. The number of civil cases that you settled. | <u>25-30</u> |
| f. The number of criminal jury trials you have tried to verdict. | <u>10-15</u> |
| g. The number of criminal bench trials you have tried to verdict. | <u>2</u> |
| h. The approximate number of hearings in which you have participated, either criminal or civil, before a district justice. | <u>75-85</u> |
| i. The number of administrative hearings that you have presented before any administrative judge or board. | <u>5-10</u> |
| j. The number of cases you have presented to a U. S. Bankruptcy Judge. | <u>5-10</u> |
| k. The number of cases you have presented to award before a Workers' Compensation Judge. | <u>3-5</u> |
| l. The number of Orphan's Court proceedings resulting in litigation. | <u>10-15</u> |
| m. The number of juvenile proceedings in which you have participated. | <u>20-30</u> |

7. **CORPORATE BACKGROUND:**

a. Do you have any business background or corporate experience?

yes no

b. If so, please explain. B.S. ACCOUNTING

Handled commercial litigation and INCORPORATED
BUSINESS FOR CLIENT BOTH PROFIT AND NON-PROFIT

c. Does your practice include business or corporate litigation?

yes no

8. **LICENSE:**

a. Has your license to practice law ever been suspended or revoked?

yes no

If so, please explain, including the date that your license was reinstated.

b. Has any other professional entity or body with licensing authority denied, suspended, or revoked your registration or license (i.e. real estate, insurance, investment, etc.)?

yes no

If so, please explain in detail. _____

- c. Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give the particulars. Do not list any proceeding in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or shareholder. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a conspirator, co-respondent/defendant, and/or in which you figured as a subject or appeared as a witness in any grand jury investigation.

NONE

9. **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND:**

- a. Have you ever been arrested for a felony or misdemeanor (excluding motor vehicle violations)?

_____ yes no

If so, please explain in detail including the outcome of such proceeding.

- b. Are you now the subject of any complaint, investigation or proceeding that may have criminal ramifications or adversely affect your professional license?

_____ yes no

If so, please explain in detail.

c. Have you ever been the subject of any complaint or proceeding that alleged sexual harassment or any form of discrimination?

_____ yes no

If so, please explain in detail. _____

d. Have you ever been charged with DUI? yes _____ no

If so, when did this happen and what was the outcome in detail?

WAS CHARGED WITH OFFENSE IN MICHIGAN

IN APPROX. 1982 NOT DUE BUT WAS DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED WHICH IS A LESSER INCLUDED OFFENSE IN MICHIGAN, PROBATION 5 MONTHS.

10.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNAL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATIONS:

a. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are or have been a member. Provide the titles and dates of any office(s) that you have held in such groups and list chairmanships of any committee or memberships on any committee that you believe to be of particular significance.

Juvenile County Bar Association; Pennsylvania Bar Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NORTHEAST/CENTRAL PA. LEGAL SERVICES

b. I have lectured or taught for the following law schools or bar/professional organizations:

NORTHEAST/CENTRAL PA. LEGAL SERVICES

c. I have lectured on or taught about the following subjects:

DOMESTIC MATTER

WILLS AND TESTAMENTS

d. I have written for the following publications and the topics were as follows:

NONE

e. List any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition that you have received other than those mentioned above.

Certificate of appreciation for service on Pittston Y.M.C.A. Board of Directors

Recognition as President of Wilkes-Barre Chapter of UNICEF

Recognition from Luzerne County Legal Services for Pro-Bono work

Recognition from Northeast Pennsylvania Vietnam Veterans, Inc. for

Donating time for legal services. Luzerne County Bar Association

Recognition from Wilkes-Barre Bar Association

11. **PERSONAL POSITION**

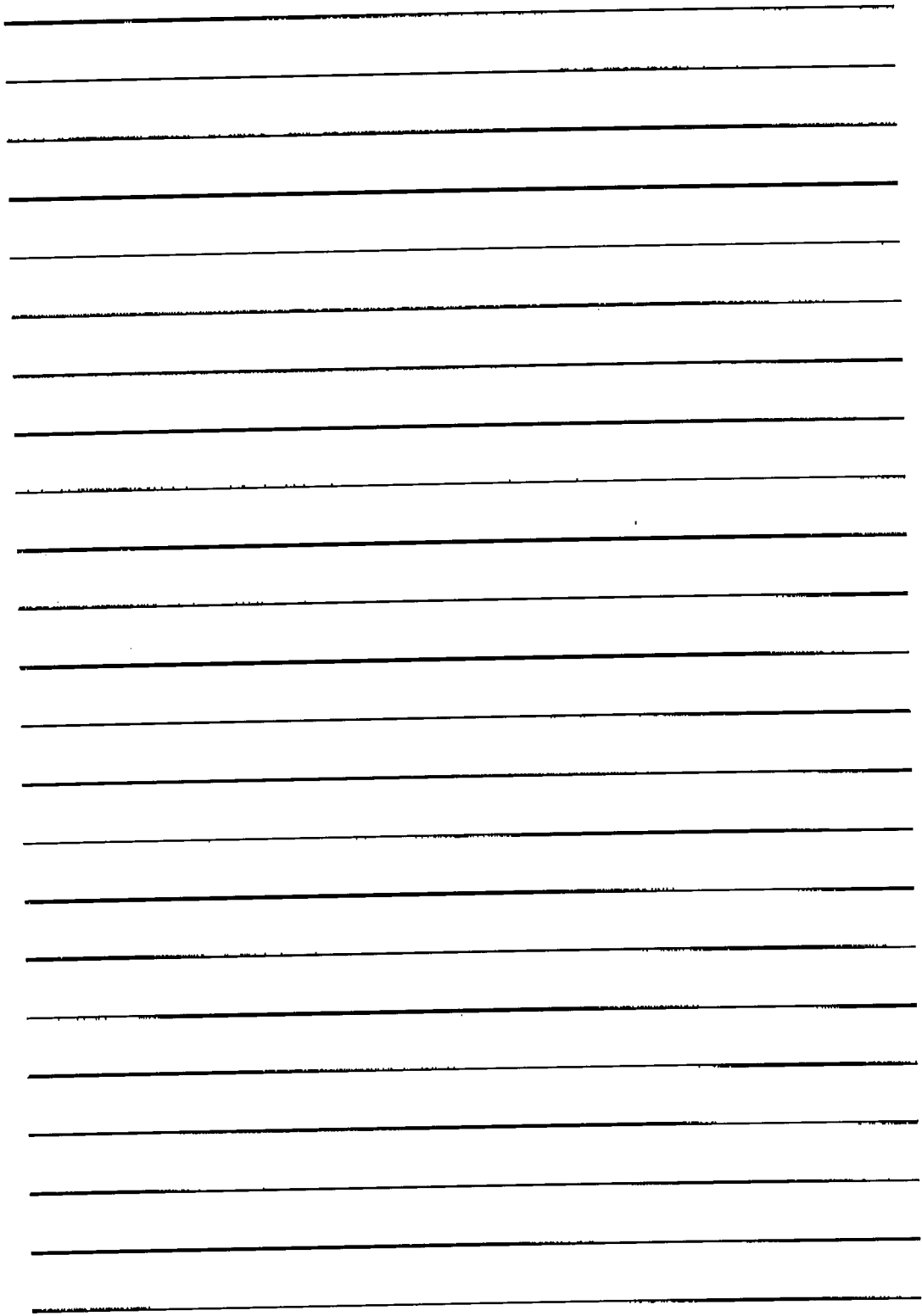
for 25 years practicing as attorney.

Please fully describe below or on a separate sheet the reasons why you consider yourself qualified to be a judge and how you would improve our current system of practice.

SEE ATTACHED

Over the past twenty-five (25) years I have practiced law in every conceivable area. This includes, but is not limited to, criminal trials, civil trials, domestic law, corporate law, real estate, estates and municipal law; at both the local and County level. This vast experience in all areas of law makes me an extremely valuable asset to the judiciary and the public allowing me to preside over and decide most if not all types of cases and be placed within the Court system and used where needed. This, coupled with the fact that I have earned the reputation of being honest, fair and compassionate, has allowed me to maintain a private practice and support a family in this very competitive legal environment; which in turn, has also made me a highly qualified candidate for Judge of the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas.

As for the current system of practice, the system works well, what we need, are good people to be put in place to run this system. This includes greater transparency by Judicial members recusing themselves when a conflict or apparent conflict exists. The Judiciary needs to lead the community by example and by practicing what they preach. By electing good, honest hardworking men or women, will in and of itself, improve the current system in Luzerne County and restore the pride and trust needed, expected and deserved by all who may have to appear before a Judge in our County.



THE APPLICANT MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING AFFIRMATION

I swear or affirm that I have read and understand the preceding questions and that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I assume the responsibility of promptly informing the Pennsylvania Bar Association of any changes to the answers provided for the questions contained on this form.

SIGNATURE: Stephen Mew

PRINT NAME: STEPHEN MEWA

DATE: 4/29/09