

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL SELECTION APPLICATION

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
DEPARTMENT C

**By**

Adriana Rincon White



Personal Information
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1.	Full Name	Adriana Rincon White
2.	Have you ever used or been known by any other legal name (including a maiden name)? If so, state name and reason for the name change and years used.	Gonzalez, birth - 1993: Father's last name given at birth  Rincon, 1993 - 2011: changed last name to Mother's maiden name  White, 2011 – present: took my husband's last name at the time of marriage
3.	How long have you been a continuous resident of Nevada?	19.8 years
4.	City and county of residence	Las Vegas, NV
5.	Age	47

Employment History
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6. Please start with your current employment or most recent employment, self-employment, and periods of unemployment for the last 20 years preceding the filing of this Application.

Current or Last Employer	8 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court
Phone	702-455-5200
Physical Address & Website	Family Court 601 N. Pecos Rd, Las Vegas NV 89101 <a href="http://www.clarkcountycourts.us">www.clarkcountycourts.us</a>
Date(s) of Employment	1/14/2019 - present
Supervisor's Name and Title	David S. Gibson, Jr., Presiding Judge (Family Court)
Your Title	Hearing Master
Describe Your Key Duties	<b>1/2023 - present:</b> <u>Domestic Violence Protection</u>  Review applications for protection and decide whether to issue temporary order based on qualifying acts of domestic violence. Preside over extension hearings; motion hearings regarding modifications of orders; motion hearings regarding dissolution of orders; and motions for contempt of court. Also, preside over Evidentiary Hearings when issues of facts exist. Draft Findings & Recommendations as needed.  <b>1/2021 – 12/2022:</b> <u>Juvenile Delinquency</u>

	<p>Presided over detention hearings to determine detainment or release after youth were arrested but before they were charged with a delinquent act. Presided over Plea Hearings; Status Checks; Motion Hearings; and Disposition Hearings. Upon adjudication of a youth, issued recommendations for terms of probation or alternative placement outside of the community. Presided over Contested Hearings and weighed evidence/witness testimony to determine whether the State proved charges. Prepared and issued written findings and recommendations. Managed heavy court docket and supervised secretarial staff of the department.</p> <p>In addition to general delinquency matters, I also presided over the following Specialty Courts or dockets:</p> <p><u>Juvenile Sex Offender</u>; <u>Juvenile Drug Treatment Court</u>; <u>EMPOWER Court</u> (intrafamilial violence); <u>Juvenile Temporary Protection Order (TPO) Court</u>:</p> <p><b>1/2019 – 12/2020 – <u>Dependency</u></b></p> <p>Presided over matters involving the allegation of abuse and/or neglect of children by their parent/caregiver. Presided over Probable Cause hearings to determine whether probable cause existed for the Department of Family Services to remove child(ren) from their parent/caregiver. Presided over Permanency Review Hearings; Evidentiary Hearings; Termination of Parental Rights Trials and Adoption Hearings. Prepared and issued written findings and recommendations.</p>
Reason for Leaving	This is my current employment

Previous Employer	Eric Palacios & Associates
Phone	702-444-7777
Address & Website	2050 S. Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104 www.ericpalacioslaw.com
Date(s) of Employment	3/2008 – 2014 and 2017-2019
Supervisor’s Name and Title	Eric Palacios, Owner
Your Title	Associate Attorney
Describe Your Key Duties	Represented clients in Family Law matters exclusively. Divorce; prenuptial agreements; custody; child support; adoptions (adult & minor); guardianship of minor children; name changes. Conducted initial client interviews; drafted &

	argued motions; represented clients at settlement conferences and trials. Supervised paralegal and secretarial staff.
Reason for Leaving	In 2014, I left to operate my own law firm. In 2017, I left after I accepted the Hearing Master Appointment.

Previous Employer	Law Office of Adriana Rincon White
Phone	No longer in operation
Address & Website	No longer in operation
Date(s) of Employment	2014-2017
Supervisor's Name and Title	Self
Your Title	Attorney Owner
Describe Your Key Duties	Owned and operated a small law office as a sole practitioner. Represented clients in Family Law, Personal Injury, and Traffic ticket matters. Responsible for the daily operation of the firm; representation of clients; and management/supervision of staff which consisted of 2-3 employees at various times.
Reason for Leaving	Returned to former employer

Previous Employer	Century 21 MoneyWorld School of Real Estate
Phone	Out of business
Address & Website	Out of business
Date(s) of Employment	2003-2008
Supervisor's Name and Title	Michael Beckner, Director
Your Title	Assistant Director
Describe Your Key Duties	Taught the State mandated 90 hour curriculum of Real Estate Law to prospective real estate agents.  Developed lesson plans and curriculum.  Assisted in managing the operation of the school and supervising school employees (2).
Reason for Leaving	Passed the Nevada Bar and accepted employment as an Attorney.

Educational Background
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7. List names and addresses of high schools, colleges and graduate schools (other than law school) attended; dates of attendance; certificates or degrees awarded; reason for leaving.

High School:

Imperial High School  
517 W. Barioni Blvd, Imperial, CA 92251  
Attended 1989-1993  
High school diploma  
Graduated

College:

San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Dr., San Diego, CA 92182  
Attended 1993-1999  
BS Criminal Justice Administration  
Graduated

8. Describe significant high school and college activities including extracurricular activities, positions of leadership, special projects that contributed to the learning experience.

High School:

**Future Farmers of America (FFA) Club:** Member, 1989-93. Officer (Sentinel) 1992-93. Having been raised in an agricultural area, my membership in the FFA taught me a lot about farming practices; farm animals; plants, horticulture and agriculture in general. Every year that I was a member I purchased, raised, and showed Sheep at the annual county fair. This project taught me at a very young age about being responsible for something/someone other than yourself; how to care for an animal and all of its needs; how to market and present an animal for show and eventually a sale auction. Showing an animal at the fair in front of a panel of judges taught me patience; preparation; and presentation. Also, purchasing, feeding, housing, and eventually selling the animal taught me basic money management and basic business skills. All of the skills I learned while a member of the FFA are skills that I have applied throughout my life and still use to this day in my legal profession.

**Mock Trial Team:** Being part of my High School's Mock Trial Team was my first exposure to the law and my first visit to a courthouse. It also was the first time I ever interacted with Attorneys and other members of the legal community who volunteered their time with our team. One year I played the role of bailiff (understudy), another year I played the role of a witness, and during my final year on the team I played the role of a prosecutor.

College:

**PreLaw Society:** This was a club for college students interested in attending law school after college. My senior year in college I was the President and during that year I was able to create a partnership with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office who agreed to partner with college students as mentors. This partnership was developed with the guidance and

cooperation of the Hon. Blaine Bowman who at the time was a Deputy DA and my Criminal Justice Professor.

9. List names and addresses of law schools attended; degree and date awarded; your rank in your graduating class; if more than one law school attended, explain reason for change.

California Western School of Law  
225 Cedar St, San Diego, CA 92101  
Juris Doctor 2002  
Class rank unknown  
Graduated.

10. Indicate whether you were employed during law school, whether the employment was full-time or part-time, the nature of your employment, the name(s) of your employer(s), and dates of employment.

California Attorney General's Office, Writs & Appeals Division: I worked as Law Clerk, part-time. My job was to draft legal memoranda filed with the California Court of Appeals and/or Supreme Court. During my last semester with this office, I received special permission from the State Bar of California to argue a case before the California Supreme Court. [Summer 2001 – Spring 2002]

11. Describe significant law school activities including offices held, other leadership positions, clinics participated in, and extracurricular activities.

California Western School of Law: I was as research assistant for my Criminal Law Professor who at the time was working on a Bail Review Project. I had this position for one semester during my second year of law school.

San Diego County Public Defender's Office: I was a law clerk, part-time for one semester during my second year of law school. My job was to interview defendants prior to their initial appearance in court.

Law Practice
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12. State the year you were admitted to the Nevada Bar.

2008

13. Name states (other than Nevada) where you are or were admitted to practice law and your year of admission.

None

14. Have you ever been suspended, disbarred, or voluntarily resigned from the practice of law in Nevada or any other state? If so, describe the circumstance, dates, and locations.

No

15. Estimate what percentage of your work over the last five years has involved litigation matters, distinguishing between trial and appellate courts. For judges, answer questions 16-20 for the five years directly preceding your appointment or election to the bench.

Prior to my appointment as full-time Hearing Master in 2019, 100% percent of my work involved litigation in Family Court. I have never done appellate work.

16. Estimate percentage of time spent on:

Legal Discipline	Percentage of Practice
Domestic/family	100%
Juvenile matters	
Trial court civil	
Appellate civil	
Trial court criminal	
Appellate criminal	
Administrative litigation	
Other: Please describe	

17. In the past five years, what percentage of your litigation matters involved cases set for jury trials vs. non-jury trials?

I have been a Hearing Master since 2019. During my last year in private practice, approximately 15- 20% of my cases were set for non-jury trial.

18. Give the approximate number of jury cases tried to a conclusion during the past five years with you as lead counsel. Give the approximate number of non-jury cases tried to a decision in the same period.

None.

19. List courts and counties in any state where you have practiced in the past five years.

Family Court, Clark County

20. List by case name and date the five cases of most significance to you (not including cases pending in which you have been involved), complete the following tables:

Case 1
Case name and date: Taylor v Taylor (2013)
Court and presiding judge and all counsel: Clark County Family Court Hon. William Gonzalez James Kent & Thomas Stafford for Plaintiff (Wife) Adriana Rincon White for Defendant (Husband)
Importance of the case to you and the case's impact on you:  This case involved a couple who divorced via Joint Petition. The Parties stipulated to Joint Legal and Joint Physical custody of their two children. Shortly after the divorce was finalized Wife abruptly relocated to Texas with the children without either knowledge or consent from Husband. During my representation of Husband I filed motions for Contempt, pick up orders for the children and a motion for change of custody. Wife disobeyed multiple court orders and refused to return the children to Nevada or disclose their location for some time. This matter required the intervention of the Missing & Exploited Children division of the Attorney General's Office and the cooperation by the State of Texas. After a couple of years of litigation, my client was awarded Primary Physical Custody of the children.  The impact this case had on me was learning about parental abduction in divorce/custody cases and how different government agencies work in these cases. It was challenging to coach and comfort my client during this desperate time for him, especially knowing that while wrongdoing may be blatant legal relief takes time, patience, and perseverance.
Your role in the case: Defendant's attorney

Case 2
Case name and date: Gutierrez v. Pineda-Gutierrez (2016)
Court and presiding judge and all counsel: Clark County Family Court Hon. Bryce Duckworth Attorney Stephen Compan for Plaintiff (Husband) Attorney Adriana Rincon White for Defendant (Wife)
Importance of the case to you and the case's impact on you:  This case involved an elderly couple who had been together for 25+ years but had only been legally married for 3 years prior to their divorce. They had a severely handicapped adult child in common who required full-time around the clock care. Wife had historically been this child's care taker. Early on in the relationship the couple purchased a home in Husband's name only. The couple held out themselves in public as a married couple. In fact, Husband was able to get Wife medical insurance through his employer for her for many

<p>years prior to their marriage because he listed her as his spouse and no one ever questioned it. At the time of divorce, Husband refused to give Wife any interest in the home which had a significant amount of equity at that time. Without any financial relief, Wife would be homeless and destitute post-divorce. She was in her 70s at this point and not employable. At the conclusion of the case, Wife received a share of the equity in the home. I was able to convince the Judge that despite the putative spouse doctrine not being recognized in Nevada, Wife was entitled to some of the equity in the home because of her contributions to the home.</p> <p>This case had a tremendous impact on me because although the law was really stacked against my client, I understood her need and knew how important it was to get her a just and fair result as her life literally depended on it. I received a great lesson in perseverance and zealous advocacy.</p>
<p>Your role in the case: Defendant's attorney</p>

<p>Case 3</p>
<p>Case name and date: In the Matter of the Parental Rights of A.P., P.P., L.P., D.P. (2019)</p>
<p>Court and presiding judge and all counsel:  Hearing Master Adriana Rincon White  Deputy District Attorneys Payal Patel &amp; Candice Saip  Attorney Beth Rosenblum, for Mother  Attorney Courtney Ketter, for Father  Attorney Dewey Fowler, for the minor children  CASA Tami Laco</p>
<p>Importance of the case to you and the case's impact on you:</p> <p>This case involved 4 young brothers who were removed from their parents after being significantly abused and neglected. The boys ages 11, 6, 5, and 3 were basically left to fend for themselves while their parents engaged in significant drug use in the vehicle in which the family lived for some time. After being in foster care for some time an adoptive resource was identified in the State of Pennsylvania. I was the presiding judicial official who permitted the children to relocate to Pennsylvania with their prospective adoptive family. After some months it was discovered that this family was physically abusing at least one of the children. Emergency Hearings were conducted and ultimately I ordered the children return to Nevada and be placed in foster care again until another adoptive source was identified. The boys remained in foster care for several months again until finally a new adoptive resource was identified. In all, the children were in foster care for 3 years. The boys had a CASA Volunteer who was their advocate for the entire time and who visited them regularly even when they were in Pennsylvania. She is who reported the abuse after becoming suspicious when the prospective adoptive family abruptly cut her off from having contact with the children and they were isolated.</p>

<p>The impact this had on me was great. It was heart wrenching to hear the conditions in which these children lived with their parents who could not overcome their addiction for the good of their children. It was also an emotionally devastating to have to remove the children from a second abusive environment. As a mother of young children myself, I had to continually remind myself that my role was not that of a mother but that of a judicial officer. I had to maintain my composure at all times on the bench even when I saw tears flowing from everyone's eyes including the children. The greatest moment however was when I was able to preside over their Adoption Hearing. My Courtroom was standing room only and it was a great moment to witness an outpouring of love and support for these children who needed it and deserved it.</p>
<p>Your role in the case: Hearing Master</p>

<p>Case 4</p>
<p>Case name and date: In the Matter of A.C. (2022)</p>
<p>Court and presiding judge and all counsel:          Juvenile Drug Treatment Court          Hearing Master Adriana Rincon White          Chief Deputy District Attorney Ravi Bawa          Chief Deputy Public Defender Jennifer Fraser</p>
<p>Importance of the case to you and the case's impact on you:</p> <p>A.C. was arrested on some rather serious charges one of them being Attempted Murder. Eventually A.C. accepted a plea deal and was adjudicated on one charge of Battery resulting in Substantial Bodily Harm. A.C. spent some time in the custody of the State and once released he was ordered to Juvenile Drug Treatment Court as a condition of his Parole. I met A.C. in Drug Court and presided over every one of his hearings while there. A.C. demonstrated tremendous growth during his time in treatment court. He never missed a hearing, never tested positive for any substances, actively participated in counseling program, and even got a full-time job. A.C. was always positive, respectful, and even helped coach his peers. At graduation from Treatment Court, A.C. delivered an eloquent speech motivating all the youth present to take full advantage of the second chance Drug Treatment Court offers youth. Also, he expressed great remorse.</p> <p>The impact this case had on me was seeing a young man rehabilitated and ready to become a positive member of our community. It also helped me realize the positive impact Specialty Courts have on some of the members of our community who otherwise would get lost in the system and likely recidivate.</p>
<p>Your role in the case: Hearing Master</p>

<p>Case 5</p>
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Case name and date: In the Matter of the Petition of Adoption of Ronald & Masue Cyrankowski (2014)
Court and presiding judge and all counsel: Clark County Family Court Hon. Sandra Pomrenze Attorney Adriana Rincon White for Petitioners
Importance of the case to you and the case's impact on you: This case involved the Petition of Adoption by close family friends. This case has no legal significance but it has great personal significance to me because I personally witnessed close friends navigate through the Adoption Process. From making the decision to adopt, to working with an adoption agency, to meeting their son for the first time, and culminating with their Adoption Hearing. This was the first Adoption Case I ever handled and it was significant to me because I was able to learn all about the adoption process from my friends.
Your role in the case: Attorney for Petitioners

21. Do you now serve, or have you previously served as a mediator, an arbitrator, a part-time or full-time judicial officer, or a quasi-judicial officer? To the extent possible, explain each experience.

Yes

From 2010 to 2013 I served as a volunteer judge with the Truancy Diversion Program of the Clark County Family Court. I was assigned to schools within the Clark County School District to do on site visits and meet with students in order to address and resolve their specific truancy issues. I identified barriers to students attending school and worked with community partners to resolve and remove these barriers. I motivated students to attend school by either sharing personal stories, teaching moments, or incentives. During my three years as a volunteer I was assigned to Cram Middle School, Fremont Middle School, and Cheyenne High School.

From 2014 to 2018 I served as a Pro Tem Hearing Master in Child Support Court filling in for Hearing Masters Beller and/or Teuton as needed.

22. Describe any pro bono or public interest work as an attorney.

Consistently throughout my time as an attorney in private practice I accepted cases pro bono through the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. I was a member of their "50 Hour Club." I also volunteered at their "Ask-A-Lawyer" open clinics from time to time.

23. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are or have been a member. Give titles and dates of offices held. List chairs or committees in such groups you believe to be of significance. Exclude information regarding your political affiliation.

Clark County Bar Association, Member (2008 – Present).

Committee Member, CCBA Diversion & Inclusion Committee for Equity (2021-22)

State Bar of Nevada, Member in Good Standing (2008 – Present)

Latino Bar Association, Member (2020 – present)

24. List all courses, seminars, or institutes you have attended relating to continuing legal education during the past five years. Are you in compliance with the continuing legal education requirements applicable to you as a lawyer or judge?

Yes, I am in compliance with CLEs.

Courses and/or Seminars attended January 1, 2018 to Present:

2018:

Appellate Judges' Panel

District Court Judges' Panel

Trauma-Informed Lawyering

Understanding Human Trafficking: Legal Requirements & Lessons Learned

Litigation Essentials

Case law & Legislative Update

10 Steps to Understand & Ethically Capitalize on the Evolving Legal Practice

Substance Abuse & Recovery

Tax Changes & Bitcoin

Efficient Evidence

2019:

Institute for New Juvenile & Family Court Judges

Taking the Bench: An Interactive Online Course for New Judges

Big Picture Approach to Family Law Appeals

Trial Publicity: What Can You Say

2020:

Nevada Family Jurisdiction Judges Annual Conference

Annual Family Law Conference

Nevada Family Law Case Law Update

Domestic Violence for Nevada Judges

2021:

Drug & Alcohol Abuse: The 800 Pound Gorilla in the Room

The Six Steps to Creating an Ethical & Efficient Family Law Firm

Family Court 2020: The New Child Support Regulations

Bankruptcy Nuts & Bolts

Ethical Landmines in Today's World & How to Avoid Them

Unconscious Bias in the Legal Profession

2022:

Compassion Fatigue

Five Procedures to Keep You Bar Compliant and Your Client Happy

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Training Series, Cultural Humility 1

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Training Series, Cultural Humility 2

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Training Series, Cultural Brokering

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Training Series, Using Data to Advance

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Training Series, Making Juvenile Drug

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Training Series, Team Strategies For

Nevada Specialty Court Conference

25. Do you have Professional Liability Insurance or do you work for a governmental agency?

I work for a governmental agency.

### Business & Occupational Experience

26. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than a judicial officer or the practice of law? If yes, please list, including the dates of your involvement with the occupation, business, or profession.

2005 – 2008 Real Estate Agent & Assistant Director of a Real Estate School

27. Do you currently serve or have you in the past served as a manager, officer, or director of any business enterprise, including a law practice? If so, please provide details as to:

- a. the nature of the business: Law Office
- b. the nature of your duties: Owner/ Solo Practitioner
- c. the extent of your involvement in the administration or management of the business: managed the day to day operation of this small firm which had 2-3 employees at any given time
- d. the terms of your service: 2014-2017
- e. the percentage of your ownership: 100%

28. List experience as an executor, trustee, or in any other fiduciary capacity. Give name, address, position title, nature of your duties, terms of service and, if any, the percentage of your ownership.

Parent Leadership Team of Nevada

4780 W Ann Road, North Las Vegas NV 89031

Board of Directors/Treasurer

Supervised the managing of funds received by this non-profit organization; reviewed spending reports on quarterly basis

2022 – Feb 2023

0% ownership

### Civic Professional & Community Involvement

29. Have you ever held an elective or appointive public office in this or any other state?

No

Have you been a candidate for such an office?

Yes

If so, give details, including the offices involved, whether initially appointed or elected, and the length of service. Exclude political affiliation.

In 2020 I was a candidate for Family Court Department W, but was not elected. I received 329,962 votes which equaled 45.85% of the total votes in my race.

30. State significant activities in which you have taken part, giving dates and offices or leadership positions.

N/A

31. Describe any courses taught at law schools or continuing education programs. Describe any lectures delivered at bar association conferences.

N/A

32. List educational, military service, service to your country, charitable, fraternal and church activities you deem significant. Indicate leadership positions.

May Elementary Parent Teacher Organization, Communication Officer, 2022 - present

CC Ronnow Elementary School, Career Day Presenter, 2019 – present

Clark High School, Career Day Presenter, 2018

Huellas Mentor Program, Latino Bar Association, 2020

Preschool volunteer, Canyon Ridge Christian Church 2017-2019

33. List honors, prizes, awards, or other forms of recognition.

N/A

34. Have you at any time in the last 12 months belonged to, or do you currently belong to, any club or organization that in practice or policy restricts (or restricted during the time of your membership) its membership on the basis of race, religion, creed, national origin or sex? If so, detail the name and nature of the club(s) or organization(s), relevant policies and practices, and whether you intend to continue as a member if you are selected for this vacancy.

No

35. List books, articles, speeches and public statements published, or examples of opinions rendered, with citations and dates.

N/A

36. During the past ten years, have you been registered to vote?

Yes

Have you voted in the general elections held in those years?

Yes

37. List avocational interests and hobbies.

I enjoy reading, cooking, exercise, and watching my two children participate in various extracurricular activities. My favorite hobby is travelling with my family.

Conduct
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38. Have you read the Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct and are you able to comply if appointed?

Yes

39. Have you ever been convicted of or formally found to be in violation of federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation? Provide details of circumstances, charges, and dispositions.

No

40. Have you ever been sanctioned, disciplined, reprimanded, found to have breached an ethics rule or to have acted unprofessionally by any judicial or bar association discipline commission, other professional organization or administrative body or military tribunal? If yes, explain. If the disciplinary action is confidential, please respond to the corresponding question in the confidential section.

No

41. Have you ever been dropped, suspended, disqualified, expelled, dismissed from, or placed on probation at any college, university, professional school or law school for any reason including scholastic, criminal, or moral? If yes, explain.

No

42. Have you ever been refused admission to or been released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable discharge? If yes, explain.

No

43. Has a lien ever been asserted against you or any property of yours that was not discharged within 30 days? If yes, explain.

No

44. Has any Bankruptcy Court in a case where you are or were the debtor, entered an order providing a creditor automatic relief from the bankruptcy stay (providing in rem relief) in any present or future bankruptcy case, related to property in which you have an interest?

No

45. Are you aware of anything that may require you to recuse or disqualify yourself from hearing a case if you are appointed to serve as a member of the judiciary? If so, please describe the circumstances where you may be required to recuse or disqualify yourself.

No.

Other

46. If you have previously submitted a questionnaire or Application to this or any other judicial nominating commission, please provide the name of the commission, the approximate date(s) of submission, and the result.

N/A

47. In no more than three pages (double spaced) attached to this Application, provide a statement describing what you believe sets you apart from your peers, and explains what education, experience, personality or character traits you possess, or have acquired, that you feel qualify you as a supreme court justice. In so doing, address appellate, civil (including family law matters), and criminal processes (including criminal sentencing).

See Attached.

48. Detail any further information relative to your judicial candidacy that you desire to call to the attention of the members of the Commission on Judicial Selection.

None.

49. Attach a sample of no more than ten pages of your original writing in the form of a decision, "points and authorities," or appellate brief generated within the past five years, which demonstrates your ability to write in a logical, cohesive, concise, organized, and persuasive fashion.

See Attached.

ITEM 47

## **Personal Statement**

When I was 13, my parents divorced after a 21 year marriage. My mother, who was 53 years old at the time, had been a housewife during the entire marriage and had no marketable skills or money to her name. A friend suggested she consult with an attorney about the divorce and referred her to one in particular. My mother scraped together money for the initial consultation and scheduled an appointment. At the appointment she was up front with the attorney and told him that while she was in dire need of his services, she did not have money for a retainer. Instead of turning her away, the attorney bartered with my mom and agreed to take her case in exchange for office cleaning services. At the end of the consultation they shook hands and the following Saturday, I found myself with my mother back in the attorney's office as cleaners. Week after week, for two years, I spent my Saturdays cleaning that attorney's law office. I particularly spent a lot of time in the attorney's private office, dusting his "fancy" legal books which occupied many shelves on his book case. I was intrigued, I was interested, and the legal seed was planted in my brain. I knew right then and there that I wanted to grow up to be an attorney so I too could help people, like this man had helped my mom.

My entire life I worked toward my goal of becoming an attorney. For example, in high school I participated in Mock Trial and was on my school's team for three years. In college, in addition to working as a receptionist at a small law office, I was a member of the Pre-Law Society and elected president of the organization my senior year. In between college and law school I worked as a clerk for Federal Pre-Trial Services and then as a Secretary at the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program. After law school and before moving to Las Vegas, I worked as a law clerk at a family law office in California. Upon relocating from California to Las Vegas, I

taught real estate law to prospective real estate agents for several years before being admitted into the Nevada State Bar.

Before being appointed to full-time Hearing Master, I was in private practice for over 10 years. My practice was successful, and busy, and it brought me great joy to represent clients in Family Court. Eventually my desire to help people evolved into a different setting thanks in part to now retired Family Court Judge Jennifer Elliott. I will always remember how one day after a hearing Judge Elliott pulled me aside and told me all about the Truancy Diversion Program she headed. She explained how students in certain communities were having serious truancy issues and she needed help getting through to their families. Shortly after that introduction, I officially became a volunteer truancy judge. From that experience I learned that Judges are the community's problem solvers, and solving problems is something I enjoy doing and happen to be pretty good at.

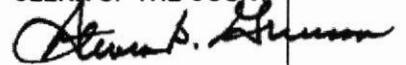
I was a volunteer truancy judge for 3 years while I continued working in private practice, until being hired as a Pro Tem Hearing Master in Child Support Court. In that position I learned how to manage a courtroom, how to prepare for hearings, how to listen and be patient. I also learned how to make decisions quickly, which is important when families are in need of immediate orders.

Years later I was encouraged by another now retired Judge to apply for a full time Hearing Master position. I am proud to say I made it through a very intensive interview process and was selected for the position from a pool of 30 or so applicants. Four years later, I am here applying for Family Court Department C, which ironically is the seat that belonged to the Judge who encouraged me to apply for the Hearing Master Position.

Thanks to my experience I have learned that to be an effective judge it takes a lot more than knowing the law you are presiding over. It requires the commitment of time, the sacrifice of some personal moments, and dedication to being prepared. An effective Judge also needs to be timely and decisive; and have the courage to make tough and sometimes unpopular decisions. Having patience and being a good listener also helps tremendously. Another trait that a Judge needs to possess is being able to work well with the support staff, like court marshals and court clerks, who help run the court efficiently. Finally, a Family Court Judge needs to be respectful and treat all people with dignity. I believe that over the years I have developed the traits needed to be an effective Judge and that is what sets me apart from the other candidates applying for this position.

I am grateful for every opportunity in my life that has gotten me to this point in my career. I am also grateful for the opportunity to apply for this important position. It would be the honor of my lifetime to serve my community as a Judge in Family Court Department C.

ITEM 49



EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

In the Matter of:

CASE NO.: [REDACTED]  
DEPT. NO.: L  
COURTROOM: 17

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

A minor, [REDACTED] years of age

**FINDINGS OF FACT,  
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF HEARING MASTER  
AMENDED PETITION NO. 1**

This matter came before the Court on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2021, and said minor, [REDACTED] was present and accompanied by mother, Amanda Walker. On June 16, 2021, [REDACTED] Stepfather Rodney Walker was also present in Court. Gloria M. Garcia, Esq., represented [REDACTED] Deputy District Attorneys, Jordan Christiansen and Summer Clarke represented the State of Nevada. The Court considered the evidence presented in this matter and makes the following Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendations.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Court heard testimony from Laszlo Hegedis, who is the named victim in this case, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Officer Torey Defauw, Tiffany Alemar, Brody Crane, and [REDACTED] who is 13 years was called as a witness for the defense but during his testimony he invoked his 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment Right. The Court appointed Attorney Kristina Wildeveld to counsel [REDACTED] Subsequently, the Court struck [REDACTED] testimony from the record.

1 On the early evening of February 21, 2021, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] went  
2 into the Tides residential community with the intention of skateboarding. No one in that group  
3 lives at the Tides. Once inside the community, the group engaged in the prank known as “ding  
4 dong ditching”. During the commission of this prank, the group approached the home of  
5 Laszlo Hegedis. According to Laszlo, on that evening he heard what sounded like two loud  
6 bangs on the front door of his home. Laszlo opened the door but did not find anyone on the  
7 other side of it except for footprint marks on the door. Laszlo saw someone riding away on a  
8 bicycle but was unable to see the face of that person. After putting on his shoes, Laszlo went  
9 out into the neighborhood with the intention of locating the person or persons who banged on  
10 his door in order to obtain facial recognition and subsequently report the event to police.

11 During his search out in the community Laszlo came upon [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
12 who were moving in a direction away from him and his residence. When the group realized  
13 Laszlo was following them they attempted to get away from him. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were on  
14 skateboards, [REDACTED] was on a scooter, and [REDACTED] was riding a bicycle.

15 Laszlo was first able to catch up to [REDACTED] who is 11 years old and the youngest member  
16 of the group. When Laszlo got close enough to [REDACTED] he grabbed him from the back of his  
17 neck and pushed him onto the ground. Once on the ground Laszlo asked [REDACTED] if he was okay,  
18 to which [REDACTED] answered that he was. Laszlo then asked [REDACTED] to take him to his parents and  
19 the pair proceeded to walk down the street towards what Laszlo believed was [REDACTED] home.  
20 At the time that Laszlo pushed [REDACTED], [REDACTED] turned around and began walking towards the two  
21 and eventually [REDACTED] followed. The group surrounded Laszlo and [REDACTED] and all began to walk  
22 in the same direction, again towards what Laszlo believed was [REDACTED] home. While walking,  
23 Laszlo heard someone in the group call him “[expletive] white boy” and make statements  
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1 regarding the members of the group being juveniles and it being against the law for Laszlo to  
2 touch the minors.

3 At one point, [REDACTED] who was walking ahead of Laszlo and [REDACTED] while facing them,  
4 also stopped and told Laszlo to leave [REDACTED] alone and instead deal with [REDACTED] who was the  
5 oldest of the group. Laszlo was focused on getting to [REDACTED]'s parents to make them aware of  
6 his activities. [REDACTED] raised his skateboard at Laszlo and in what appears to be a defensive  
7 move, Laszlo pushed [REDACTED]. To keep [REDACTED] from falling on rock landscaping Laszlo grabbed  
8 [REDACTED] by the hair as he was falling back. This motion caused Laszlo to fall as well landing  
9 over [REDACTED] in a straddling position. Laszlo suffered injuries to both of his hands as a result of  
10 the fall. Laszlo was able to get ahold of [REDACTED] skateboard and unsuccessfully tried to break  
11 it at least 2 times. On the third try, [REDACTED] was able to recover the skateboard and placed it  
12 between Laszlo and himself. [REDACTED] swung the skateboard hitting Laszlo on his face in the area  
13 between his eyes just above the bridge of the nose. Laszlo called 911 and the group fled the  
14 scene leaving the neighborhood.  
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16 [REDACTED] used his cell phone to call an older brother for advice. The group ended up  
17 approximately two blocks away from the scene at a nearby Big 5 Sporting Goods Store. When  
18 the group entered the store they were greeted by employees, one of whom was Tiffany Alemar.  
19 The group ignored the employees and proceeded to the rear of the store, in an attempt to hide.  
20 Police eventually arrived at the store and found the group inside. [REDACTED] was eventually  
21 arrested and transported to Juvenile Detention. Despite being asked by police, no one in the  
22 group reported injuries or requested medical attention. The only person who obtained medical  
23 attention was Laszlo.  
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**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The State bears the burden of proving all elements of the offense charged. *Patterson v. New York*, 432 U.S. 197, 97 S.Ct. 2319 (1977). The State must prove the charges beyond a reasonable doubt. NRS 62D.040(4) *A Minor v. Juvenile Division of the Seventh Judicial District Court*, 97 Nev. 281 (1981); see *Chambers v. Nevada*, 113 Nev. 974, 983, 944 P.2d 805, 810 (1977). It is up to the trier of fact to assess the witnesses' credibility and determine the weight to give their testimony, and "[c]ircumstantial evidence alone may sustain a conviction." See *McNair v. State*, 108 Nev 56, 61 (1992). In determining whether the State has met its burden of proof at the contested hearing, only evidence properly received and admitted will be considered. When conflicting testimony is given, the Court can weigh credibility of the respective witnesses in considering the evidence presented. *Hankins v. State*, 91 Nev. 477, 538 P.2d 167 (1975).

Amended Petition 1 Count 1 charged [REDACTED] with Battery with use of a deadly weapon resulting in substantial bodily harm, a felony.

**1. BATTERY**

The statutory definition of **BATTERY** is "any willful and unlawful use of force or violence upon the person of another." NRS 200.481(1)(a). The Nevada Supreme Court broadly interprets battery to be "the intentional and unwanted exertion of force upon another, however slight." *Hobbs v. State*, 127 Nev. 234, 237, 251 P.3d 177, 179-80 (Nev. 2011). Battery is a general intent crime and, therefore, the State is required to prove only that the "defendant actually intended to commit a willful and unlawful use of force or violence upon the person of another, *however slight*." *Id.* (citing *People v. Lara*, 44 Cal. App. 4<sup>th</sup> 102, 51 Cal. Rptr. 2d 402,

1 405 (1996)).

2 [REDACTED] came face to face with Laszlo and struck him in the face with a skateboard. [REDACTED] did so  
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4 willfully and intentionally after telling Laszlo "stop, stop if you get closer I will hit you." Although  
5 [REDACTED] testified that Laszlo punched him in the forearms, Officer Depauw's testimony contradicts this  
6 testimony.

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8 **2. DEADLY WEAPON**

9 **NRS 193.165(6)(b) defines a deadly weapon as any weapon, devise, instrument**  
10 **material or substance which under the circumstances in which it is used attempted**  
11 **to be used or threatened to be used is readily capable of causing substantial bodily**  
12 **harm or death.**

13 When determining whether an object is a deadly weapon the court may consider the  
14 degree of force used by the defendant and the type and bodily locations of injuries to the victim.

15 [REDACTED] used a skateboard to strike Laszlo on the face which resulted in his permanent  
16 disfigurement.

17 The Court finds that in the manner in which the skateboard was used, it is a deadly  
18 weapon.

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20 **3. SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM**

21 **NRS. 0.060(1) defines SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM as bodily injury which**  
22 **creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious, permanent**  
23 **disfigurement, or protracted loss of impairment of the function of any bodily**  
24 **member or organ.**

25 Laszlo sustained injuries in the brow area above the bridge of his nose which resulted  
26 in permanent disfigurement.

27 Therefore, the Court finds that Laszlo sustained substantial bodily harm as a result of  
28 the battery committed upon him by [REDACTED]

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**4. SELF DEFENSE or DEFENSE of OTHERS**

Use of deadly force in response to a felony is only justified when the person poses a threat of serious bodily injury; otherwise, the amount of force used must be reasonable and necessary under the circumstances. *Newell v. State*, 364 P. 3d 602 (2015).

In this case, the altercation between Laszlo and the group of juveniles occurred in a private residential area where Laszlo's residence was located. No one among the group resided in that community nor otherwise had permission to be there. Laszlo approached the group who he believed to be responsible for the two bangs he heard on his front door. Laszlo admitted to pushing ██████ to the ground and subsequently holding him by the arm while instructing him to take Laszlo to his parents. ██████, however, is not the person who struck Laszlo with a skateboard, it was ██████ ██████ tried to get Laszlo to leave the group alone by yelling at him and making certain statements.

Laszlo took ██████ skateboard away with the intent of breaking it but was unsuccessful. Laszlo did not threaten ██████ with the skateboard or any other item including his hands. ██████ testified that Laszlo threw punches at his face and that he balled his fists and put them in front of his face to protect his forehead and brows from injury. ██████ testified that he felt punches on his forearms although Laszlo denied that and Officer Defauw testified that there were no visible marks or punch marks on ██████ nor did he report any injuries. Also, when police asked the group whether any of them required medical attention, all stated none was needed. ██████ did not tell police he was involved in a fight or that he was attacked.

1 The Court does not find that [REDACTED] was under any reasonable threat of serious bodily  
2 injury which warranted the use of force he used on Laszlo.

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4 **RECOMMENDATION**

5 Wherefore, Adriana Rincon White, Hearing Master in the Juvenile Division of the  
6 Eighth Judicial District Court of Nevada, in and for Clark County, Nevada, does hereby find  
7 the State of Nevada has established beyond a reasonable doubt that the Subject Minor did  
8 commit the following:

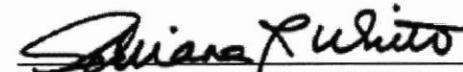
9 Amended Petition No. 1:

10 **COUNT 1: BATTERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON RESULTING IN**  
11 **SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM (FELONY)**

12 On or about February 21, 2021, did willfully, unlawfully, and feloniously use force or violence  
13 upon the person of another, to wit: LASZLO HEGEDIS, with use of a deadly weapon to wit:  
14 a skateboard, by Subject Minor hitting victim on or about the head and/or face with a  
15 skateboard, resulting in substantial bodily harm and/or permanent disfigurement and/or scar to  
16 said victim in violation of NRS 200.481 and/or NOC 50226.

16 Wherefore, Adriana Rincon White, Hearing Master in the Juvenile Division of the  
17 Eighth Judicial District Court of Nevada, does hereby recommend that [REDACTED], be  
18 adjudged a delinquent child as defined Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 62. It is further  
19 recommended that a Dispositional Hearing be held on Amended Petition No. 1.

20 DATED this 28th day of June, 2021.

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23 ADRIANA RINCON WHITE  
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