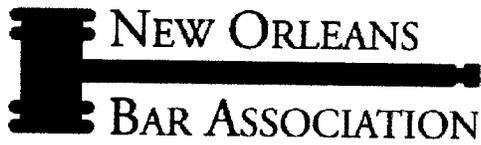


**Judicial Candidate Information Form  
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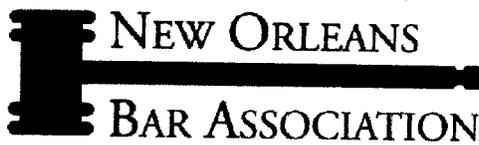
**Instructions:** Please only respond using 10 pt. Arial font in the spaces provided. Any items left blank will be noted that the candidate chose not to respond.

1. Name	Michelle Scott-Bennett
2. Date of Birth	Month: <u>07</u> Year: <u>1971</u>
3. Place of Birth	City: <u>Evanston</u> State: <u>IL</u>
4. Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed
5. Undergraduate Education  Include name of school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)	Louisiana State University Bachelor of Arts in Sociology-1993
6. Legal Education  Include name of law school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)	Loyola School of Law JD degree- 1997
7. Date of Admission to Louisiana Bar	Month: <u>April</u> Year: <u>1998</u>
8. Professional Experience Including Nature of Practice and Extent of Civil and/or Criminal Trial Experience	Owner and Attorney for The Justice For All Law Center, LLC- 17 years as a Family Law Attorney Ad Hoc Domestic Commission for 9 months Child in Need of Care Attorney for two years in Juvenile Court Contact Attorney for the Private Bar Involvement program- handling family law issues under Southeast Louisiana Legal Services. Trained in Collaborative Law Appointed as a special master and as a custody facilitator.



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<p>9. Bar Associations, Court Admissions, Professional Organizations and Legal Fraternities</p>	<p>New Orleans Bar Association Jefferson Bar Association Louisiana State Bar Association Jefferson Parish Family Law Association</p>
<p>10. In the past ten years, have you ever filed for or declared bankruptcy?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain. Personal bankruptcy 2001</p>
<p>11. In the past ten years, have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a criminal violation other than a minor traffic violation? Include matters that have been dismissed, expunged, subject to diversion or deferred prosecution or otherwise set aside.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.</p>
<p>12. Have you ever been publicly sanctioned by the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board or the disciplinary body of any court, administrative body, or other entity before which you function as an attorney or judge?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.</p>



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**Instructions:** For sections 13 through 19, please provide us with your perspective on why you are well-suited to uphold the following well-accepted principles essential to any strong and vibrant judicial system. Comment only in the space provided. If you do not comment, it will be noted that the candidate chose not to respond.

13. Judges should uphold the rule of law.

In the area of family law the "rule of law" is not always black and white. As a Judge I will be knowledgeable on the code articles as well as the case laws that often serve as guidance on how the statutes have been applied in a given situation. Since all cases are different it is important to hear all of the facts of a case prior to making a determination.

14. Judges should be independent and impartial.

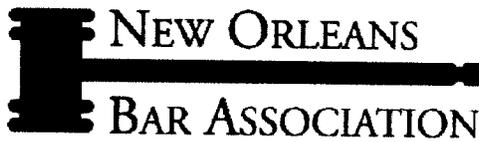
I believe that Judges should be independent and impartial. In the area of family law the rulings that are made effect the lives of the litigants and their children on a daily basis so it is paramount that I be impartial.

15. Judges should possess the appropriate judicial temperament and character.

I believe that judicial temperament and character are important for a Judge to possess, however I believe that judicial temperament and character needs to be combined with knowledge, experience in order to be an effective Judge.

16. The judicial system should be racially diverse and reflective of the society it serves.

I believe that an effective judicial system should be based on the qualifications of the candidates. The election of a candidate by the community doesn't always provide for racial diversity. However, the system should be reflective of the society it serves especially in the area of family law, I believe that a family law Judge should be married and have a family because that is the society that is served in Family court.



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<p><b>17. Judges and the judiciary should have the confidence of the public.</b></p>	<p>I believe that the public should be confident in the selection process of electing a Judge. The public should be confident that they are electing a Judge who is going to do the Job she was elected to do. However, the "confidence of the public" as a whole is probably not possible given the nature of the job. You can't make everyone happy and unhappy litigants are part of the public so no judge is going to have the full confidence of the public.</p>
<p><b>18. Judges should possess the appropriate capabilities and credentials.</b></p>	<p>I certainly believe that a Judge should be elected based upon actual experience and qualifications. Often times Judges are selected on name recognition, money or political support and the litigants, attorney's and the Judicial system as a whole suffers as a result.</p>
<p><b>19. Please comment on how you plan to manage your docket from an efficiency standpoint.</b></p>	<p>The family docket has to be organized based upon the time required to hear the various types of cases. Organizing the docket starts with reading the motions and petitions filed. I plan to have my staff contact the attorney who filed the document to pick an available court date instead of just writing in a date and sending the paperwork out. During the call the staff can ask about witnesses and the estimated time the attorney believes will be required to hear the case. I also plan to use phone status conferences and pre-trial dates to organize the docket.</p>