

5. Please assess, in one or two paragraphs, your judicial performance during your present term. Appropriate areas of comment could include: satisfaction with your judicial role, specific contributions to the judiciary or the field of law, increases in legal knowledge and judicial skills, or other measures of judicial abilities that you believe to be important.

I believe that I have made a successful transition to this very challenging position as a result of the time and effort that I have committed to my new responsibilities. Because my previous career was focused on criminal law and a few areas of civil law (child protection and probate) appointment to this court required me to review and learn many areas of civil law that had not been a part of my practice. I believe that I have refreshed my knowledge in many areas and I continue to research and learn in order to properly address the issues that are presented in the cases before the court.

I also believe that my many years' experience doing criminal and child in need of aid trials adds an important perspective to a court where none of the other justices have that background. And my many years of representing clients allows me to engage with the pro se litigants that appear before us and to help ensure that they feel that they have had a meaningful opportunity to be heard by the supreme court.