

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR LAWYER APPLICANTS**

I am seeking a rating for the following court:

- Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas
- Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court
- Pennsylvania Superior Court
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court
- United States District Court for Western District of Pennsylvania
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

1. State your full name:

Tiffany Elizabeth Sizemore

Have you ever been known by any other name? If so, please list.
Tiffany Elizabeth Sizemore-Thompson

2. Office address (include zip code):

Duquesne University
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Office telephone (include area code):
412-396-4730

Name of law firm, if associated:
Tribone Center for Clinical Legal Education

3. Date and place of birth:

12/27/1977 Pittsburgh, PA

4. Are you a naturalized citizen? **No.** If so, give date and place of naturalization:

5. Family status:

- a) Are you married? **No.** If so, state the date of marriage and your spouse's full name, including maiden name, if applicable:

- b) Have you been divorced? **Yes**. If so, state the date, the number of the case and the court:
The decree was entered July 14, 2017; Docket no. FD-17-7354 – Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Family Division.
6. Have you had any military service? **No**. If so,
- a) Give dates, branch of service, rank of rate, and present status:
- b) Have you ever been rejected or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable? If so, give details:
7. List each college and law school you attended, including dates of attendance, and the degrees awarded and, if you left any institution without receiving a degree, the reason for leaving. List scholastic honors:
- Antioch College, 1995-2000, B.A., Education
 - Howard University School of Law, 2001-2004, J.D., *cum laude*
 - Georgetown University, 2013-2014 Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Executive Certificate, *Crossover Youth Practice Model*
8. List all jurisdictions in which you have applied to take a bar examination, have applied for admission or have been admitted to practice. Include dates of admissions and if not admitted, give application dates and explain the outcome.
- District of Columbia, Admitted 2005
 - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Admitted 2013
 - United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania, Admitted 2017
9. Describe chronologically your law practice and experience after your graduation from law school, including:
- a) Whether you served as clerk to a judge and, if so, the name of the judge, the court, and the dates of the period you were a clerk:
N/A
- b) Whether you practiced alone and, if so, the addresses and the dates:
N/A
- c) The dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been connected and the nature of your connection with each:

- **October 2005-October 2012**
The Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS)
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004
Attorney; Trial Division 2005-2012
Supervising Attorney; Trial Division 2010-2012
- **February 2013-August 2015**
Allegheny County Office of the Public Defender
542 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Deputy Director, Juvenile Division
- **August 2015-present**
Duquesne University School of Law
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282
Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Studies
(Juvenile Defender Clinic; Education Law Clinic; Youth Advocacy Clinic)

d) Any other relevant particulars:

10. With respect to your practice:

- a) What has been the general character of your practice, dividing it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years?

My work has primarily been as a public defender representing both children and adults in juvenile delinquency and criminal matters. In my current position, as a clinical professor, I take some cases by court appointment. Clients are also allowed to come directly to the clinic for representation outside of the court appointment process. During my career, I have represented clients in cases from presentment through disposition of the case, and handled serious violent felonies, including: homicide, sexual assault, armed robbery, armed kidnapping, and armed carjacking. My work has also included representing witnesses to crimes, targets of grand jury investigations, and defendants in diversionary courts, e.g., mental health court or drug court. I was a member of PDS' hiring committee for seven years. I also participated in hiring interviews as part of my management position at the Office of the Public Defender here in Allegheny County.

Since 2016, I have also represented parents and students in special education and school discipline matters in Allegheny and surrounding counties. That work consists of both administrative hearing representation at the local and state levels, as well as statutory appeals to the Court of Common Pleas Civil Division.

Finally, the clinic also represents minors in Protection From Abuse matters where they are the defendant.

- b) Describe your typical clients and mention the areas, if any, in which you have concentrated your practice:

My practice has focused on indigent juvenile and criminal defense. At this point in my career, I've spent slightly more than half of the time representing children in both juvenile and criminal proceedings.

Consistent with the fact that there are deep and persistent racial and ethnic disparities in this nation's criminal justice system, my clients have been overwhelmingly African-American boys and men. Given the nature of the offices in which I have worked, I have always represented clients at no-cost. All of my clients are either income-qualified or statutorily-qualified to receive services at no cost.

11. With respect to the last five years:

- a) Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally, or not at all? If the frequency of your appearances in court has varied during this period, describe each such variance, giving the dates thereof:

During the last five years, I have appeared in court regularly. I usually have between two and six hearings a week.

- b) What percentage of these appearances was in:

1. Federal courts:
0%

2. State courts of record:
93%

3. Other courts:
7% (I am including here special education Due Process hearings in front of state hearing officers)

- c) What percentage of your litigation was:

1. Civil:
7%

2. Criminal:
93%

- d) State the number of cases in courts of record you tried to verdict or judgment (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel or associate counsel:

I have tried approximately 15 cases over the last five years.

e) What percentage of these trials were:

1. Jury: 30%

2. Non-jury: 70%

12. Summarize your experience in court prior to the last five years, indicating as to that period:

a) Whether your appearances in court were more or less frequent:

Overall, I would say that my court appearances were a little less frequent from 2013-2015 because I was more engaged in administrative duties at the Allegheny County Public Defender's Office. From 2004-2012, I was in court much more frequently than the past five years. During that time period, I was in court four to five days a week.

b) Any significant changes in the percentages stated in your answers to question 11(b), (c) and (e):

Yes. From 2004-2012, my practice was only criminal, and involved no civil work. My practice was only in D.C. Superior Court (the equivalent of our Court of Common Pleas). The overwhelming majority of the cases I tried during that time were jury trials (approximately 90%).

c) Any significant changes in the number of cases per year in courts of record you tried to verdict or judgment (rather than settled), as sole counsel, chief counsel or associate counsel.

Yes. I tried approximately 45-50 cases during that time, the vast majority of which were jury trials. I was sole or lead counsel in approximately 95% of those cases.

13. Describe five of the most significant litigated matters which you personally handled and give the citations thereto, if the cases were reported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case and a succinct statement of what you believe to be the particular significance of the case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented and describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case a) the dates of the trial periods; b) the name of the court and the judge before whom the case was tried; and c) the individual name, address and telephone numbers of co-counsel for each of the other parties;

- *United States v. Ramona Watson*, 2010 CF3 5569 & 2010 CF3 20212

This was a five co-defendant kidnapping and drug conspiracy case. I was sole counsel for Ms. Watson. It represents the most complicated case I have tried as an attorney to date. There were multiple alleged victims, hundreds of pages of grand jury testimony, cooperating witnesses with intricate cooperating agreements, and many co-conspirator statements. I only handled the case at the trial level.

D.C. Superior Court before the Honorable Ann O'Regan Keary (2010)

Co-Defendant Attorneys:

Betty Ballester
4200 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016
202-244-9400

James Rudasil
717 D Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
202-779-0560

George Lane
I could not find contact information for Mr. Lane on the District of Columbia Bar website.

Atiq Ahmed
1320 9th Street, NW
Suite 202
Washington, DC 20036
202-710-4929

AUSA J.P. Cooney (prosecutor)
1400 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005
No phone number is listed for Mr. Cooney; However, I believe he is now employed as an AUSA in New Jersey.

- *In re: K.M.F., 12 WDM 2015*
This was a juvenile matter so only initials have been used to caption. This case represented the first use in Allegheny County (and perhaps the state) of Rule of Appellate Procedure 1770, which provides an expedited appeal mechanism for juveniles who are ordered to out-of-home placement at disposition. After having been in the community, without incident, for many, many months, my client was sent to placement at disposition, which we believed was against the weight of the evidence at the disposition hearing.

Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Section before
the Honorable Arnold Klein (2015)

ADA Meghan Black (prosecutor)
440 Ross Street
Allegheny County Juvenile Court, Third Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-4400

- *In re: E.H., J-670-05*
This was a juvenile matter so only initials have been used to caption. In this case, my client was charged with multiple counts of first-degree child sexual abuse. The complaining witness was a young neighbor who was unable to provide a full account of the allegations at trial. Three of the four counts were dismissed during a Motion for Judgement of Acquittal following the government's case-in-chief at trial. However, my client was adjudicated delinquent of one count, despite the fact that there was insufficient evidence to do so. The case was overturned on appeal for lack of sufficient evidence and client, E.H., was cleared of all

charges.

D.C. Superior Court before the Honorable John Mott (2006)

I am unable to remember the name of opposing counsel in this matter but he or she would have been with the Juvenile Section of the Office of the Attorney General in Washington, DC.

- *In re: S.S., CP-02-JV-2066-2013*

This was a juvenile matter so only initials have been used to caption. This was an attempt criminal homicide, where the Commonwealth attempted to certify my 14 year old female client to criminal court. The certification was denied and the case was tried in juvenile court.

Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Section before the Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark (2014)

ADA Jaime Hickton (prosecutor)
440 Ross Street
Allegheny County Juvenile Court, Third Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-4400
(Ms. Hickton is now in private practice)

- *In re: V.H.*

This was an education matter involving a juvenile so only initials have been used to caption. Additionally, there is no official case number for this matter as it was before a Hearing Officer for Pittsburgh Public Schools, as designated by its School Board. In this case, the District attempted to expel my client, as he was alleged to have assaulted a school police officer. We were able to show, with video evidence, from the school's surveillance cameras, that the assault never happened and that several school officials were untruthful in their written accounts of what happened in the case. My client was not expelled from school, and went on to graduate from high school with his class in the spring of the same school year.

Before Hearing Officer Rosalyn Guy-McCorkle (2017)

Aimee Zundel (school solicitor)
445 Fort Pitt Blvd, #503
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-391-9890

14. If a substantial period of your practice has been before administrative boards, commissions or agencies during the past five years, identify the boards, commissions or agencies before which you have practiced and estimate percentages of practice time devoted thereto: **N/A**

15. If a substantial portion of your practice has been before Appellate courts during the past five years, identify the Appellate Courts before which you have practiced and estimate percentages of practice time devoted thereto: **N/A**

16. a) Have you ever held judicial office? **No.** If so, give dates and details, including the courts involved, whether elected or appointed, periods of services, and a description of the jurisdiction of each of such courts with any limitations upon the jurisdiction of each court:

b) Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? **No.** If so, give details, including the office involved, whether elected or appointed, and the length of your service, giving details:

17. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? **No.** If so, give details, including dates:

18. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law or the holding of judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including dates:

Prior to law school, I waited tables during college and after college. I worked at a local tavern in the town where I went to college (Yellow Springs, Ohio) from 1998-2000. I also worked, during college, at Houlihan's Restaurant in Monroeville, PA while I was home during an internship. That was in 1996 or 1997.

19. Are you now an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? **No.**
- a) If so, give details, including the name of your enterprise, the nature of the business, the title or other description of your position, the nature of your duties and the term of your service.

 - b) Is it your intention to resign such positions and withdraw from any participation in the management of any such enterprises if you are elected and confirmed? If not, give reasons:
20. Have you ever been convicted of violating any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? **No.** If so, give details. Do not include summary traffic offenses:
21. Are you under any ongoing federal, state or local investigation or indictment for possible violation of a criminal statute? **No.** If so, give particulars:
22. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? **No.** If so, give particulars:

23. Have you ever been sued by a client? **No.** If so, give particulars:
24. Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in any other legal proceedings? **No.** If so, give the particulars. Do not list proceedings in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or stakeholder. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, a material witness, were named as co-conspirator or a co-respondent and any grand jury investigation in which you figured as a subject or in which you appeared as a witness:
25. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? **No.** If so, give the particulars:
26. Currently or within the past five (5) years have you suffered from any medical or other condition which could affect or impair your judgment, reliability, or ability to perform the essential functions of the judicial position you are seeking? If so, describe. **No.**
27. Do any circumstances exist that would affect your ability to perform the function of the position you seek or fulfill the term of office? **No.** If so, please explain.

28. Furnish one (1) example of a legal article, law review article, brief, or other legal writing which reflects your personal work. If a brief is submitted, indicate the degree to which it represents your personal work:

I have enclosed with this application an article co-authored with my research partners. I was the primary author for the Introduction and Parts I & V. The version attached hereto is the final non-published version. The published version is not yet available to us. However, there will be no substantive changes in the final version. It will be primarily technical edits.

29. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups. List chairmanships of any committees in bar associations and professional societies and memberships on any committees which you believe to be of particular significance (e.g., judicial selection committee, disciplinary committee, grievance committee).

National Juvenile Defender Center

- Regional Advisory Board Member, National Juvenile Defender Center, Northeast Region (2017-2021)
- Co-Director, Northeast Regional Center, National Juvenile Defender Center (2017-2019)
- National Advisory Board Member, National Juvenile Defender Center (2017-2019)
- Certified Juvenile Training Immersion Program (JTIP) Trainer
- Faculty Member, Summer Academy for Juvenile Defenders

Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania

- President, Board of Directors (2020-present)
- Vice President, Board of Directors, Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania (2016-2020)
- Board Member (2013-2016)
- Regular CLE presenter

Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Task Force

- Member, Appointed by Governor Tom Wolf (2019)

Black Girls' Equity Alliance

- Member (2019-present)

Allegheny County Bar Association

- Member, Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee

Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee

- Member, 2013-2020

30. List your experiences in teaching and lecturing, including law school, continuing legal education and to non-legal audiences.

Duquesne University School of Law

- Youth Advocacy Clinic (current)
- Juvenile Defender Clinic (5 Academic Years)
- Education Law Clinic (4 Academic Years)
- Unemployment Compensation Clinic (Spring 2016)
- “Race and Criminal Justice,” Fall 2015 – Guest Lecturer, Criminal Procedure
- Public Defender: Juvenile Division Externship (1 Academic Year)

Other Lecturing & CLE Presentations

- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania Spring Bootcamp, March 2015; “Dispositional Advocacy”
- Resentencing Juveniles Conference, March 2016; “Principles to Consider in Juvenile Lifer Resentencings”
- National Juvenile Defender Center Summer Academy, June 2016; “Cross-Examination” (co-presenter with Professor Ji-Seon Song); “Challenging Identification Evidence” (co-presenter with Professor Randy Hertz); “Challenging Transfer to Adult Court” (co-presenter with Attorney Mary Ann Scali)
- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania Summer Bootcamp 2.0, June 2016; “Adolescent Brain Development Case Law”
- National Juvenile Defender Center Annual Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit, October 2016; “Dynamic Dispositions: Real World Ways to Improve Case Outcomes” (co-presenter with Attorney Eduardo Ferrer & Maria Guido, MSW); “50 Years After *Miranda* & 5 Years After *J.D.B.*: Where Are We Now and Where Do We Want to Be?” (various other presenters, panel); *J.D.B.* and *Miranda* in Practice: Effectively Challenging Juvenile Statements” (co-presenter with Attorney Martin Feinman)
- Society of American Law Teachers, October 2016; “Lawyering with Purpose: Holistic Representation, Relational Lawyering, and Resilience”
- James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, November 2016; “Expungements: How to File & Follow-Up”
- Educational Success and Truancy Prevention Workgroup of the Allegheny County Children’s Roundtable, April 2017; “Addressing Discipline/Alternative Education Issues”
- Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Annual Joint Meeting, April 2017; “Ethical Perils of Representing Juveniles Who May Be Incompetent” (co-presenter with Attorney Howard Elbling)
- Equal Justice Works Conference, May 2017; “JRAP: A Partner Approach to Reducing

Barriers for Youth Impacted by Criminal Records” (various co-presenters, panel format)

- National Juvenile Defender Center Summer Academy, June 2017; “Challenging Identification Evidence” (co-presenter with Professor Randy Hertz); “Challenging Transfer” (co-presenter with Attorney Cathryn Crawford)
- James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, November 2017; “Autism in Practice” (co-presenter with Dr. Tammy Hughes, Duquesne University School of Education)
- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania & Juvenile Defender Clinic Joint Training, April 2018; “Immigration Issues for Juvenile Court-Involved Youth” (co-presenter with Attorney Cheryl Sobeski-Reedy); “Competence to Stand Trial for Court-Involved Youth”
- National Juvenile Defender Center Summer Academy, June 2018; “Challenging Identification Evidence” (co-presenter with Professor Randy Hertz); “Challenging Transfer” (co-presenter with Attorney Kristina Kersey); Client Considerations: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression” (co-presenter with Attorney Christina Gilbert); “Collateral Consequences” (co-presenter with Attorney Serena Holthe)
- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania Summer CLE Defense Training, June 2018; “The *Miller* Revolution and Adolescent Brain Science in the Law”
- Education Justice Conference, July 2018; “Navigating the School-to-Prison Pipeline”
- THINC30 2018, October 11, 2018; “Disrupting the School-to-Prison-Pipeline” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAAyJ0GxHkE&list=PLD0Zw95Qr2iGDMZQAbnZWg2DEw8pra6si&index=6>)
- James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, November 7, 2018; “Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) 101”
- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania CLE, March 29, 2019, “Education Advocacy for the Juvenile Defender”
- Education Law Center Advocacy Institute: Unlocking Possibilities for Black Girls, April 5, 2019, “Know Your Rights: School Discipline to Criminalization”
- National Juvenile Defender Center Summer Academy, June 2019; “Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Expression” (co-presenter with Cristina Gilbert); “Challenging Violations of Probation” (co-presenter with Professor Randy Hertz); “Challenging Identification Evidence” (co-presenter with Professor Randy Hertz)
- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania Summer CLE, August 2019; “Spotlights from the Field: Successfully Litigating Transfer” (co-presented with Attorney Anthony Borrero and Attorney Eli Zlokas)
- National Juvenile Defender Center Annual Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit, October 2019; “Risk Assessment Deconstruction” & “Assessing Assessments: Pulling Apart “Risk” Findings (co-presenter with Dr. Sara Boyd, Dr. Keith Cruse and Attorney Eduardo Ferrer)

- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania, Summer Lunch Series, August 2020, “Police in Schools”
- Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania, Winter/Spring Lunch Series, February 2021, “Delinquency Defense 101”

31. List all organizations other than bar associations, professional associations or societies of which you are or have been a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations:

- Board Member, Neighborhood Legal Services Association
- Board Trustee, The Winchester Thurston School
- Board Member, Youth Enrichment Services, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Board of Directors (Past President), Alliance for Police Accountability

32. List any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition which you have received (including any indication of academic distinction in college or law school) other than those mentioned in answers to the foregoing questions.

- John C. Rangos Prize for Reimagining and Reinventing the Curriculum, Duquesne University, 2019 (with team members: Appelt, C., Blaskowitz, M., Stuart, A., Calhoun, B., Covey, J., Devido, J., Hughes, T.L., Whitman, R.K., & Simpson, A.)
- National Juvenile Defender Center Service Award, October 2019
- Vision Towards Peace “Passion Meets the Road” Forerunner Award, September 2019

33. State any other information which may reflect positively or adversely on you or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for an election to a Court of Pennsylvania.

34. Why do you wish to become a Justice or Judge? What special strengths do you feel you possess that would particularly well qualify you for the position of Justice or Judge?

I'm seeking a seat on the Court of Common Pleas because I want to continue my career's work of pursuing real justice for those involved with the court system. I have represented folks who cannot afford to pay for legal representation for the duration of my career. During the sixteen years I've spent litigating cases, I have borne witness to the devastating things that can happen when people do not have quality legal representation. On the other hand, I have also seen what happens when a judge who is deeply concerned with equity and justice presides over a case. At this point in my career, that is the role I believe I am well-qualified and suited to fit. I understand the court system deeply. I want to take that understanding and translate it into a fair process where all voices are heard, a courthouse that has facilities and services available to all, and one where data and science are used to create equitable processes and outcomes.

My courtroom litigation experience qualifies me to be a judge because I understand the work in a practical way. I understand the kinds of decisions that I will be asked to make. I understand the law intimately in the areas where I have practiced and that will allow me to hit the ground running if I am assigned to one of the divisions where I have practiced. At the same time, my career as a litigator has also caused me to have to understand other areas of law that intersect with my own cases. So even if I were to be assigned to a division where I have no experience, I have confidence in my ability to quickly learn the law. Finally, my sixteen years of courtroom experience has required me to be able to think quickly and make critical decisions in high-pressure environments. This is a skill I have refined over my career, and one that I believe will serve me well on the bench.

35. Did you sign the ACBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Guidelines Pledge? **Yes.** It is enclosed. (Please return signed pledge with completed questionnaire.)

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

The undersigned certifies that all of the statements made in this questionnaire are true, complete and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief and are made in good faith.

Tiffany E. Sizemore

Type or print name

/s/ Tiffany E. Sizemore

Signature

3/4/21

Date

ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

JUDICIAL CANDIDATE PLEDGE

I, Tiffany Sizemore, a candidate for judicial office, have familiarized myself with the Code of Judicial Conduct and the Code of Civility, as promulgated by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. I have directed special attention to Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, including Rules 4.1, 4.2 and 4.4. I agree to conduct my judicial campaign consistent therewith and further consistent with *Republican Party of Minnesota v. White*, 536 U.S. (2002). I further pledge that all campaign advertising will be done fairly, accurately, truthfully, and will maintain the dignity appropriate to the judicial office which I am seeking.

Amended 11/18/2014

/s/ Tiffany E. Sizemore
Signature of Candidate

3/4/21
Date