

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name:** State full name (include any former names used).

Sandy Nunes Leal

2. **Position:** State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Court Judge for the Central District of California

3. **Address:** List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Lamoreaux Justice Center
341 The City Drive South, L69
Orange, California 92686

Residence: Irvine, California

4. **Birthplace:** State year and place of birth.

1972; Longview, Washington

5. **Education:** List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

1996 – 1999, Boston College Law School; J.D., 1999

Summer 1995, University of California, Santa Barbara; Summer Portuguese Language Program.
No degree conferred.

1990 – 1995, University of Washington; B.A., 1995

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2018 – Present
Superior Court of California, County of Orange
Lamoreaux Justice Center
341 The City Drive South, L69
Orange, California 92686
Superior Court Judge

2008 – 2018
United States Attorney's Office
Ronald Reagan Building & United States Courthouse
411 West Fourth Street, Suite 8000
Santa Ana, California 92701
Assistant United States Attorney
Deputy Chief, Santa Ana Branch Office (2015 – 2018)
Orange County Maritime Smuggling Coordinator (2011 – 2018)
Orange County Human Trafficking Coordinator (2010 – 2018)
Orange County Immigration Fraud Coordinator (2009 – 2015)

2004 – 2008
United States Attorney's Office
312 North Spring Street, Suite 1300
Los Angeles, California 90012
Assistant United States Attorney
Deputy Chief, Domestic Security and Immigration Crimes Section (2007 – 2008)

2003 – 2004
Williams Sonoma
3200 North Sepulveda Boulevard e10,
Manhattan Beach, California 90266
Part-Time Sales Associate

1999 – 2004
United States Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Office of the District Counsel
606 South Olive Street, Suite 800
Los Angeles, California 90014
(On or about March 1, 2003, Immigration and Naturalization Service, within the Department of Justice, was replaced with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, within the Department of Homeland Security. My office and position remained the same.)

1998 – 1999
Starbucks Coffee Company
16-18 Austin Street
Newtonville, Massachusetts 02160

Shift Supervisor/Barista

1998

Office of the Attorney General, State of Washington
1125 Washington Street SE
Olympia, Washington 98504
Summer Law Clerk

1997

Anna's Taqueria
1412 Beacon Street
Brookline, Massachusetts 02446
Cashier

1997

Hon. Marianne B. Bowler, United State Magistrate Judge
United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, Massachusetts 02210
Summer Intern

1996 – 1997

Seattle's Best Coffee (closed)
Barista

1995 – 1996

Azteca Mexican Restaurant (closed)
Server

1995

Troutman's Emporium (closed)
Sales Associate

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I have not served in the military. I was not required to register for selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Top Prosecutor Award, Women in Federal Law Enforcement (2017)

Crime Victims Award, Victim Witness Assistance Program (2014)

Immigration Fraud Award, Immigration & Customs Enforcement (2009)

Forced Labor Prosecution Award, Immigration & Customs Enforcement (2009)

Secretary's Award, United States Department of Homeland Security (2008)

Human Smuggling Prosecution Award, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (2008)

Human Smuggling Prosecution Award, Immigration & Customs Enforcement (2007)

University of California, Santa Barbara, Center for Portuguese Studies
Summer Portuguese Program Scholarship (1995)

Walter E. Lunquist Scholarship (1990 – 1995)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

I have not been a member of any bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees.

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

California, 2000

Membership lapsed in 2018 when I became a judge.

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2005

United States District Court for the Central District of California, 2004

Memberships lapsed in 2018 when I became a judge.

11. **Memberships:**

a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates

of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Irvine Slammers/USA Junior Soccer League (2014 – 2016)

Youth Soccer Coach (2014 – 2016)

Girls U7 League Coordinator (2015 – 2016)

Irvine Public Schools Foundation (2014 – 2015)

Site Coordinator - Afterschool Enrichment Classes

SoCal Elite Sports Basketball League (2016 – 2017)

Youth Basketball Coach

Parent Teachers Association (2018)

Parliamentarian

LA Galaxy OC Soccer Club (2018 – present)

Youth Soccer Coach

b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To the best of my knowledge, none of the organizations listed above currently discriminates or formerly discriminated on the bases of race, sex, religion or national origin, either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

12. **Published Writings and Public Statements:**

a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

None.

b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

None.

c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

None.

d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

In or around August 2016 and August 2017, Speaker, Summer Youth Education Conference, Orange County District Attorney's Office. The subject matter of each presentation was the role of the United States Attorney's Office in federal criminal proceedings. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address of the Orange County District Attorney's Office is 401 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, California 92701.

In or around June 2015 and June 2016, Panelist, United States Attorney's Office, Central District of California. The subject matter of each event was how to become an Assistant United States Attorney. I have no notes, transcripts or recordings. The address of the United States Attorney's Office is Ronald Reagan Building & United States Courthouse, 411 West Fourth Street, Suite 8000, Santa Ana, California 92701.

In or around January 2010, January 2013, and January 2016, Speaker, Orange County Human Trafficking Taskforce. PowerPoints supplied.

In or around May 2008, Speaker, National Security Conference, United States Department of Homeland Security. PowerPoint supplied.

e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

3 Charged in Calif.-based Prostitution Ring, Associated Press, June 19, 2012. Copy supplied.

Ex-Armenian Consul Enters Plea in Alleged Scam, Associated Press, Aug. 24, 2009.

Copy supplied. Reprinted in multiple outlets.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

From December 21, 2018 through the present, I have served as a Judge of the Superior Court for the State of California. I am currently assigned to the family law section of the Orange County Superior Court. I was appointed to this position by Governor Edmund Gerald Brown Jr. The Superior Court is a unified state trial court serving the County of Orange which includes jurisdiction over all matters to include criminal, traffic, civil, probate, juvenile, family law, and mental health matters.

a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment?

I am currently handling family law matters, including but not limited to petitions for dissolution of marriage, petitions to establish parental relationship, requests for temporary and permanent domestic violence restraining orders, requests for temporary and permanent child custody orders, requests for child and spousal support, requests for qualified domestic relations orders, and petitions for adoption. From approximately February 2019 through March 2019, I handled short-cause family law matters that were permanently assigned to other Superior Court Judges but temporarily assigned to me for evidentiary hearings. Beginning in approximately April 2019, I was assigned a permanent caseload of family law matters consisting of reassigned matters and newly filed family law matters.

Because an assigned Orange County Superior Court judge retains jurisdiction of family law matters in a case despite the completion of evidentiary hearings and issuance of decisions in the case, it is difficult to estimate the number of cases that I have presided over that have gone to judgment. In the last six months, I have issued final orders in family law cases involving petitions for dissolution of marriage, petitions to establish parental relationship, requests for permanent domestic violence restraining orders, requests for permanent child custody orders, requests for child and spousal support, and petitions for adoption.

i. Of these, approximately what percent were:

jury trials:	0 %
bench trials:	100% [total 100%]
civil proceedings:	100%
criminal proceedings:	0% [total 100%]

b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

I have not written any opinions.

c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (3) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

(1) *Y.A. v. O.T.*, No. 19P000051 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this request for a permanent domestic violence restraining order. Petitioner claimed multiple instances of physical abuse by respondent in the presence of a minor child. After a two-day evidentiary hearing, I concluded that acts of domestic violence had occurred, that the respondent was the perpetrator, and that the petitioner was the victim. I issued a permanent domestic violence restraining order for a period of five years. I also ordered the respondent to enroll in a 52-week intervention program for batterers.

The parties in this matter were not represented by counsel.

(2) *Campbell v. Campbell*, No. 16D001563 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this petition for dissolution of marriage where the issues included child and spousal support, and the division of separate, community and quasi-community assets and debts. After a two-day evidentiary hearing, I granted the petition for dissolution of marriage and ruled on child and spousal support and the division of property.

Counsel for Petitioner

Sheryl L. Edgar
A Center for Children and Family Law
1111 West Chapman Avenue
Orange, California 92868
(714) 937-1234

(3) *C.D. v. G.D.*, No. 18D006591 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

This case involved the filing of a request for a temporary child custody order and a request for temporary spousal support order. At issue, during the three-day evidentiary hearing, was the parties' income and expenses. I determined the parties' income and expenses and awarded spousal support to the petitioner, retroactive to the time of filing of the initial request. I also awarded temporary child custody to the petitioner with a child visitation schedule for the respondent.

Counsel for Petitioner

Xinia L. Williams

Law Offices of H. William Edgar
6800 Indiana Avenue, Suite 150
Riverside, California 92506
(951) 684-6885

Counsel for Respondent

Cynthia Farias
Espinosa Espinosa & Farias
1204 North Ross Street
Santa Ana, California 92701
(714) 558-8958

(4) *Jones v. Jones*, No. 14D007053 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this petition for dissolution of marriage where the issues included the division of separate property, community and quasi-community property and attorney fees. After a two-day evidentiary hearing, I ruled on separate property claims, the division of community and quasi-community assets and debts, and awarded attorney fees to petitioner.

Counsel for Petitioner

Matthew J. Sundly
Farzad Family Law, APC
1851 East First Street, Suite 460
Santa Ana, California 92705
(714) 937-1193

Counsel for Respondent

Jeffrey L. Heath
Law Offices of Jeffrey L. Heath
1901 Newport Boulevard, Suite 284
Costa Mesa, California 92627
(949) 650-8124

(5) *D.F. v. R.G.*, No. 19V000216 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this request for a permanent domestic violence restraining order. Petitioner alleged multiple instances of verbal abuse and harassment by respondent directed at petitioner and her minor children. After a one-day evidentiary hearing, I found that acts of domestic violence had occurred, and that the respondent was the perpetrator, and the petitioner and her children were the victims. I issued a restraining order for a period of five years.

The parties in this matter were not represented by counsel.

(6) *K.L. v. J.B.*, No. 18D008533 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this request for a permanent domestic violence restraining order. Petitioner alleged multiple instances of physical and verbal abuse. At the conclusion of the one-day evidentiary hearing, I referred the parties to the Orange County Family Court Veteran and Service Member Domestic Violence Program and confirmed that respondent was an active service member. As a result, the parties stipulated to extend the temporary restraining order, to meet with a program representative, and enroll in the Orange County Family Court Veteran and Service Member Domestic Violence Program.

Counsel for Petitioner

David P. Schwarz
Post Office Box 3578
Costa Mesa, California 92628
(949) 735-9266

Counsel for Respondent

Mark La Rosa
7340 East Florence Avenue, Suite 107
Downey, California 90242
(562) 904-9454

(7) *Lombino v. Sullivan*, No. 17P000581 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this petition to establish parental relationship and petitioner's request for order regarding child custody and visitation. At issue during the two-day evidentiary hearing was allegations of alienation of the child and fear of respondent by the child as a result of prior verbal and physical abuse witnessed by the child. After considering the testimony of the parties, an expert witness, and minor counsel's position, I ordered sole legal and physical custody to the petitioner and a visitation schedule for respondent subject to various conditions related to parenting education and therapy.

Counsel for Petitioner

Valerie E. Prescott
Prescott & Prescott, Inc.
400 West First Street
Tustin, California 92780
(714) 730-5200

Counsel for the Minor Child

Daniel J. Boehm
Law Offices of Daniel J. Boehm
444 West Tenth Street, Suite 200
Santa Ana, California 92701
(714) 543-1851

(8) *N.T. v. A.T.*, No. 18D009325 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this request for a permanent domestic violence restraining order. Petitioner alleged physical abuse, verbal threats, and destruction of property. At the conclusion of the one-day evidentiary hearing, I encouraged the parties to consider revisions to the current temporary restraining order that would provide protection to the petitioner but include conditions to allow for the peaceful exchange of the minor child. As a result, the parties stipulated to an amended temporary restraining order to include conditions related to the peaceful exchange of the parties' child.

Counsel for Respondent

Jason Blonska
The Blonska Firm, P.C.
17822 17th Street, Suite 407
Tustin, California 92780
(714) 565-7800

(9) *M.O. v. G.O.*, No. 05V002382 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

I presided over this request for a permanent domestic violence restraining order. Petitioner sought a domestic violence restraining order against his adult brother for alleged identity theft and interference with his business and employment. After a one-day evidentiary hearing, I found that there was insufficient evidence to demonstrate that domestic violence had occurred and denied the petitioner's request for a domestic violence restraining order.

The parties in this matter were not represented by counsel.

(10) *Rodriguez v. Rodriguez*, No. 15D000903 (O.C. Sup. Ct.)

This was a petition for dissolution of marriage case involving the determination of community property interest in property, the division of a community property annuity, and requests for spousal support and attorney fees. After a three-day evidentiary hearing, I concluded that the property at issue was petitioner's perquisite from her employer and not transferable, I divided the community property annuity, and awarded partial attorney fees to the petition.

Counsel for Petitioner

Joseph Robert Terrazas III
Law Offices of Joseph R. Terrazas, III
202 South Lake Avenue, Suite 290
Pasadena, California 91101
(626) 460-8811

Counsel for Respondent

Ann L. Lakhman

Lakhman & Kasamatsu, LLP
330 East Hillcrest Boulevard
Inglewood, California 90301
(714) 202-5640

d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

I have not written any opinions.

e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

To the best of my knowledge or recollection, none of my decisions have been appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

None.

g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

I have not issued any unpublished opinions.

h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

I have not issued significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues.

i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

I have never sat by designation on a federal court of appeals.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a

litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

I review every case assigned to me to determine whether there is an actual conflict or a possible appearance of conflict, and whether I should disclose information that is reasonably relevant to the question of recusal. In addition to my own screening, two principal mechanisms for disqualifying a judge exist in California law: (1) a party may file what is analogous to a peremptory challenge, resulting in the automatic disqualification of a judge if the challenge is timely filed (*see* Cal. Civ. Proc. Code §170.6); and (2) a party may file a motion to disqualify for cause (*see* Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 170.1).

I have not received any requests to recuse myself due to an asserted conflict of interest nor have I recused myself sua sponte.

15. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

None.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

None.

16. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

- a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation

from law school including:

- i. 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;

I have not served as a clerk to a judge.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have not practiced law alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

1999 – 2004

United States Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Office of the District Counsel
606 South Olive Street, Suite 800
Los Angeles, California 90014

(On or about March 1, 2003, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice was replaced with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security. My office and position remained the same.)

2004 – 2008

United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California
312 North Spring Street, Suite 1300
Los Angeles, California 90012
Assistant United States Attorney
Deputy Chief, Domestic Security and Immigration Crimes Section (2007-2008)

2008 – 2018

United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California
Ronald Reagan Building & United States Courthouse
411 West Fourth Street, Suite 8000
Santa Ana, California 92701
Assistant United States Attorney
Deputy Chief, Santa Ana Branch Office (2015-2018)
Orange County Immigration Fraud Coordinator (2009 – 2015)
Orange County Human Trafficking Coordinator (2010 – 2018)
Orange County Maritime Smuggling Coordinator (2011 – 2018)

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator.

b. Describe:

i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

In 1999, through the Attorney General's Honors Program, I joined the Office of the District Counsel in Los Angeles, California where I represented the Immigration and Naturalization Service in the trial and appellate courts on immigration matters. I appeared in immigration court regularly, handling a wide range of matters, including deportation/removal hearings, visa adjustment hearings, asylum hearings, and appeals to the Board of Immigration Appeals. In 2002, I worked in the refugee verification unit at the Office of International Affairs in Washington D.C. and the American Embassies in Moscow, Russia and Chisinau, Moldova.

In 2004, I joined the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California. As an Assistant United States Attorney, I was responsible for investigating and prosecuting federal criminal cases in the Central District of California. In that capacity, I advised federal law enforcement agents on criminal investigations, presented criminal cases to the grand jury, tried criminal cases before the United States District Court, and represented the United States in criminal appeals before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. In 2007, I became a Deputy Chief of the Domestic Security and Immigration Crimes Section in the Los Angeles Office. In that capacity, I supervised approximately three to six Assistant United States Attorneys, which included review of indictments, plea agreements, and motions.

In July 2008, I transferred to the Santa Ana Branch Office. As an Assistant United States Attorney in the Santa Ana Branch Office, I held various coordinator positions, these included: Orange County Human Trafficking Coordinator (2010-2018), Orange County Maritime Smuggling Coordinator (2011-2018), Orange County Immigration Fraud Coordinator (2009-2015).

In my coordinator roles related to immigration fraud and maritime smuggling, I worked with law enforcement agencies, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Customs and Border Protection, and Diplomatic Security Service, to review, investigate, and consider immigration fraud and maritime smuggling cases for prosecution. In my role as Orange County Human Trafficking Coordinator, I worked with federal law enforcement as well as the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force to review, investigate, and consider trafficking and forced labor cases for prosecution.

In 2015, I became the Deputy Chief of the Santa Ana Branch Office. As a Deputy Chief in the Santa Ana Branch Office, I supervised approximately five to seven Assistant United States Attorneys, reviewed indictments, plea agreements, and motions, and assisted in the management of the day-to-day operations in the branch office.

ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

From 1999 – 2004, I represented the United States and its federal agency, the Immigration and Naturalization Service. I was in the trial attorney section and I appeared regularly in immigration court.

From 2004 – 2018, I represented the United States in federal criminal matters. I worked with a number of different agencies including Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Secret Service, and Diplomatic Security Service. I specialized in federal criminal law and, over time, developed a few subspecialties including immigration-related fraud offenses, sex trafficking of children or by force, fraud or coercion, forced labor, and human smuggling.

c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

My entire career as a practicing lawyer was in litigation. From 1999 – 2004, when I was at the Office of the District Counsel, I appeared in immigration court daily. From 2004 – 2018, when I was at the United State Attorney’s Office, I appeared in district court approximately once a week.

i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. | federal courts: | 75% |
| 2. | state courts of record: | __% |
| 3. | other courts: | 25% |
| 4. | administrative agencies: | __% |

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. | civil proceedings: | 25% |
| 2. | criminal proceedings: | 75% |

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I handled hundreds of civil, immigration matters before the Los Angeles immigration courts to final decision. To the best of my recollection, I tried five criminal cases during my career as an Assistant United States Attorney and was sole counsel on one of the cases, chief counsel on two of the cases, and associate counsel on two of the cases.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | | |
|----|-----------|-----|
| 1. | jury: | 75% |
| 2. | non-jury: | 25% |

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have not practiced before the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; 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 date of representation;

b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and

c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

(1) *United States v. Ornelas*, SA CR 14-183-CJC (C.D. Cal.) (Carney, J.).

I represented the United States as lead counsel in this investigation and prosecution which began in 2014 and concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2017. The defendant was charged in a multi-count indictment with engaging in illicit sexual conduct in a foreign place, production of child pornography outside of the United States, and possession of child pornography. Defendant traveled to the Philippines and sexually abused minor victims, ranging in ages from eight (8) to seventeen (17) years old, produced videos of such abuse, and transported such videos to the United States. Some of the then-child victims traveled to the United States and testified at trial. A jury found defendant guilty of all counts. The district court sentenced defendant to 190 years' imprisonment.

Dates of Representation: 2014 – 2017

Co-Counsel

Anne C. Gannon
Assistant United States Attorney
Ronald Reagan Bldg. & U.S. Courthouse
411 West Fourth Street, Suite 8000
Santa Ana, California 92701
(714) 338-3548

Defense Counsel

Jason Hannan
Andrea L. Jacobs
Federal Public Defenders
Ronald Reagan Building & U.S. Courthouse
411 West Fourth Street, Suite 8000
Santa Ana, California 92701
(714) 338-4500

(2) *United States v. Ruiz*, SA CR 10-127-DOC (C.D. Cal.) (Carter, J.).

I was one of two attorneys representing the United States in this prosecution. The defendant was charged in a multi-count indictment charging a conspiracy to commit mail fraud and mail fraud. The indictment alleged that defendant operated a mortgage brokerage firm where defendant fraudulently obtained home loans from lenders for individuals purchasing or refinancing homes. Defendant proceeded to trial by jury. The defendant was convicted on all counts and sentenced to 108 months' imprisonment and restitution in the amount of \$5,992,157. The conviction and sentence were appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal and affirmed in 620 Fed. Appx. 577 (9th Cir. 2015).

Dates of Representation: 2011 – 2016

Co-counsel

Joseph T. McNally
Assistant United States Attorney
312 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 894-2400

Defense Counsel

H. Dean Steward
H. Dean Steward Law Offices
107 Avenida Miramar, Suite C
San Clemente, California 92672
(949) 481-4900

(3) *United States v. Porter*, SA CR 12-97-JLS (C.D. Cal.) (Staton, J.).

I represented the United States as lead counsel in this investigation and prosecution which began in 2012 and concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2016. The defendants were charged in a multi-count indictment with conspiracy to engage in sex trafficking, and sex trafficking by force, fraud, and coercion. The defendants recruited, transported and maintained at least five victims knowing that force, fraud and coercion would be used to cause the victims to engage in commercial sex acts. The defendants pleaded guilty to conspiracy to engage in sex trafficking and the lead defendant was sentenced to 240 months' imprisonment, while the co-defendant was sentenced to 78 months' imprisonment. The conviction and sentence were appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal and affirmed in 656 Fed. Appx. 345 (9th Cir. 2016).

Dates of Representation: 2012 – 2016

Co-counsel

Honorable Daniel H. Weiss, Immigration Judge
[formerly with the Civil Rights Division, Criminal Section, Department of Justice]
Dallas Immigration Court/Executive Officer for Immigration Review
1100 Commerce Street, Suite 1060
Dallas, Texas 75242
(214) 761-5324

Defense Counsel

Katherine T. Corrigan
Corrigan, Welbourn and Stokke APLC
4100 Newport Place, Suite 550
Newport Beach, California 92660
(949) 251-0330

H. Dean Steward
107 Avenida Miramar, Suite C
San Clemente, California 92672
(949) 481-4900

(4) *United States v. Tavares-Hernandez*, SA CR 11-231-DOC (C.D. Cal.) (Carter, J.).

I represented the United States as sole counsel at trial in this prosecution which concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2014. The defendant was charged in a single-count indictment with false claims against the United States. In committing the offense, the defendant submitted a 2008 federal tax return and an amended 2008 tax return falsely claiming refunds in total of \$1,049,323. The defendant proceeded to jury trial and was convicted and sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment.

Dates of Representation: 2013 – 2014

Co-Counsel

Charles E. Pell

Assistant United States Attorney
Ronald Reagan Building & U.S. Courthouse
411 West Fourth Street, Suite 8000
Santa Ana, California 92701
(714) 338-3542

Defense Counsel

Paul C. Horgan
20422 Beach Boulevard, Suite 320
Huntington Beach, California 92648
(714) 916-4009

(5) *United States v. Nevils*, CR 03-1269-CBM (C.D. Cal.) (Marshall, J.).

I represented the United States as lead counsel in this trial which began in 2005 and concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2015. The defendant was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition. Defendant proceeded to trial by jury. The defendant was convicted and sentenced to 77 months' imprisonment. The defendant appealed his conviction and a Ninth Circuit panel reversed for insufficient evidence to support his conviction. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals granted the government's request for en banc review and held that the evidence was sufficient to support that defendant was in possession of weapons. The conviction and sentence were affirmed in 598 F.3d 1158 (9th Cir. 2010).

Dates of Representation: 2005 – 2015

Co-Counsel

Hon. Sherilyn P. Garnett
[formerly with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California]
Judge of the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles
Glendale Courthouse
600 East Broadway
Glendale, California 91206
(818) 256-1802

Defense Counsel

Reuven L. Cohen
Dordi Williams Cohen
724 South Spring Street, Suite 903
Los Angeles, California 90014
(213) 232-5163

(6) *United States v. Hovanesyan*, SA CR 09-175-AG (C.D. Cal.) (Guilford, J.).

I represented the United States as lead counsel in this investigation and prosecution which began in 2009 and concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2011. The defendant was charged in a single count indictment with obstruction of a proceeding before a department,

agency, or committee, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1505. The defendant obstructed and impeded a pending removal before the Department of Homeland Security. The defendant agreed to obtain a fraudulently issued letter from the Armenian Embassy in order to prevent the deportation of a foreign national. The defendant entered into a plea agreement. Defendant was sentenced to 30 days' jail, a three-year period of probation, and a fine of \$3,000.

Dates of Representation: 2009 – 2011

Defense Counsel

Mark Werksman
888 West Sixth Street Suite 400
Los Angeles, California 90017
(213) 688-0460

(7) *United States v. Lawson*, SA CR 09-95-CJC (C.D. Cal.) (Carney, J.).

I represented the United States as lead counsel in this investigation and prosecution which began in 2009 and concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2010. The defendant was charged in a multi-count indictment with sex trafficking of children or by force, fraud, or coercion, transportation of a minor for prostitution, and possession of child pornography. The defendant recruited, transported, and maintained at least two minor victims knowing that force, fraud and coercion would be used to cause the victims to engage in commercial sex acts. The defendant recruited one minor victim through the use of www.myspace.com and targeted foster children. The defendant entered into a plea agreement and was sentenced to 210 months' imprisonment.

Dates of Representation: 2009 – 2010

Co-Counsel

Mieke Biesheuvel Tarwater
[formerly with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California]
TaylorMade Golf
5545 Fermi Court
Carlsbad, California 92008
(760) 918-6395

Opposing Counsel

Hon. Anne Hwang
[formerly with the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California]
Judge of the Superior Court, County of Los Angeles
Metropolitan Courthouse
1945 South Hill Street
Los Angeles, California 90007
(213) 745-1863

Anthony Eaglin

One Wilshire Building
624 South Grand Avenue, 22nd Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017
(213) 629-8734

(8) *United States v. Pelayo*, CR 08-458-GAF (C.D. Cal.) (Feess, J.).

I represented the United States as lead counsel in this investigation and prosecution which began in 2008 and concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2010. The defendants were charged in a multi-count indictment with forced labor, unlawful conduct with respect to documents in furtherance of forced labor, and bringing illegal aliens for private financial gain. The defendants brought Philippine nationals to the United States under false pretenses for purposes of working at lead defendant's residential elder-care facility. The lead defendant obtained the labor of at least two victims by means of the abuse of law. The lead defendant threatened to alert law enforcement of the victims' illegal status in the United States if they tried to run away. The lead defendant was sentenced to 57 months' imprisonment and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$167,389.43. The remaining defendants were sentenced to time-served sentences and probationary sentences.

Dates of Representation: 2008 – 2010

Defense Counsel

Philip P. DeLuca
5820 East Naples Plaza
Belmont Shore, California 90803
(562) 987-1300

Greg Nicolaysen
27240 Turnberry Lane, Suite 200
Valencia, California 91355
(818) 970-7247

George Steele
2222 Foothill Boulevard, Suite 301
La Canada Flintridge, California 91011
(626) 405-91011

(9) *United States v. Mendoza-Granades*, CR 04-235-ABC (C.D. Cal.) (Collins, J.).

I was one of two attorneys representing the United States in this prosecution. The defendant was charged in a multi-count indictment with conspiracy to engage in hostage taking, and use of a firearm during or in relation to a crime of violence. The defendant and his co-conspirators kidnapped recently smuggled foreign nationals and held them under threat of harm until ransoms were paid for their release. The defendant proceeded to trial by jury. Defendant was convicted on all counts and sentenced to 480 months' imprisonment.

Dates of Representation: 2005 – 2005

Co-Counsel

Scott M. Garringer
Deputy Chief, Criminal Division
312 North Spring Street, Suite 1200
Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 894-2417

Opposing Counsel

David Robert Reed
3699 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 850
Los Angeles, California 90010
(310) 854-5246

(10) *United States v. Edgar Aceves*, CR 08-197-CAS (C.D. Cal.) (Snyder, J.).

I represented the United States as sole counsel in this investigation and prosecution which began in 2008 and concluded by conviction and sentencing in 2011. The defendants were charged in a multi-count indictment with conspiracy to bring and transport illegal aliens for financial private gain, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, and aiding and assisting certain illegal aliens to enter the United States, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1327. Defendants transported illegal aliens including a previously deported felon in hidden compartments from Mexico into the United States. Defendants entered into plea agreements and were sentenced to sentences ranging from 57 months' imprisonment to probation.

Dates of Representation: 2008 – 2011

Defense Counsel

William Domnarski
6144 Omega Street
Riverside, California 92506
(951) 334-0529

Christopher Johnson
6355 Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Suite 326
Woodland Hills, California 91367
(818) 888-7540

Thomas Nishi
6475 East Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 535
Long Beach, California 90803
(562) 248-2509

Mark Kassabian
350 West Colorado Boulevard, Suite 200

Pasadena, California 91105
(626) 219-0632

David Kaloyanides
15338 Central Avenue
Chino, California 91710
(213) 623-8120

Matthew Lombard
11400 West Olympic Boulevard, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, California 90064
(424) 371-5930

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

Within the United States Attorney's Office, I held various positions of responsibility in addition to the prosecutorial work of the office. From 2007 through 2008, I was the Deputy Chief of the Domestic Security and Immigration Crimes Section. During that time, I oversaw the prosecutorial work of the section. I also held coordinator positions related to maritime smuggling, immigration fraud, and sex trafficking which necessitated participation in and oversight of task forces dedicated to the investigation of related crimes. From 2015 through 2018, I was the Deputy Chief of the Santa Ana Branch Office which entailed the oversight of the prosecutorial work in the branch office.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

None.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

No.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments,

or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

No.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

See attached Financial Disclosure Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

My husband, Jason Grimm, is a Deputy Chief of the Service Center Law Division, Office of the Chief Counsel, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services in Laguna Niguel, California. If confirmed, I would establish a screening procedure to identify, and avoid presiding over, any matter in which he represents, or has represented, the United States.

b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If confirmed, I will carefully review and address any real or potential conflicts in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 455, Canon 3 of the Code of Conduct of United States Judges, and any other laws, rules and practices governing such circumstances.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

As a judge, I am, for the most part, precluded from practicing law, pro bono or otherwise. As a government lawyer for approximately 19 years, my ability to provide pro bono services was

also limited.

26. **Selection Process:**

a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

On or about February 11, 2019, I was contacted by an official from the White House Counsel's Office to arrange an interview for a judicial position. On February 21, 2019, I interviewed with attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office and the Office of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice. Since that time, I have been in contact with officials from the White House Counsel's Office and the Office of Legal Policy of the Department of Justice.

On March 8, 2019, I interviewed with members of Senator Harris's Judicial Advisory Commission. On May 7, 2019, I interviewed with the Central District Judicial Advisory Committee. On May 14, 2019, I interviewed with David S. Casey, Jr., who oversees Senator Feinstein's Judicial Advisory Committees.

b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.