

APPLICATION (Revised September 2011)
TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
CIRCUIT JUDGE

RESPONSE TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IF THE APPLICANT IS SELECTED AS A NOMINEE.



NAME: Ellen Wyatt Dunne

1. State your present principal occupation: **Attorney**
2. Are you at least 30 years of age? **yes**
3. (a) How long have you been a citizen of the United States? **Since birth-55+ years**
(b) Have you been a resident of St. Louis County for at least one year immediately prior to the date of this application? **yes**
(c) How long have you been a qualified voter of Missouri? **Since age 18 (37 years)**

4. Are you licensed to practice law in Missouri? **yes**

List any other states, courts, or agencies in which you are licensed as an attorney: **Illinois**

5. State the date you were admitted to the Bar in Missouri? **April 19, 1991**

Missouri Bar Number: **41442**

(In completing items 6 and 7, please account for all time periods between post-high school education and the date of this application.)

6. State the name and address of all colleges and universities you have attended, together with the dates and degrees received:

St. Louis University School of Law, 100 N. Tucker Blvd. St. Louis MO 63101
Juris Doctor and Labor Law Certificate, December 1990
Dates attended: August 1987-December 1990

University of Missouri, Columbia, 105 Jesse Hall, Columbia, MO 65211
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, May 1983
Dates Attended: August 1979-May 1983

St. Louis Community College-Meramec, 11333 Big Bend Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122
Paralegal Studies
Dates attended: 1984

7. State, in chronological order, your entire working career, including non-legal employment, if any. Include the name and address of each firm, corporation, partnership, or governmental body with which you have been associated, and the dates thereof. (Start with earliest date, conclude with present.)

Ruiz Mexican Restaurant
901 N. U.S. Highway 67, Florissant, MO 63031
Bus-person; part-time-Summer, 1976

Bonanza Sirloin Pit, Manchester, MO
Server/Hostess/Cashier; part-time, 1977-1979; Winter Breaks 1979 and 1980

Dobbs Cafeteria
University of Missouri
105 Jesse Hall, Columbia, MO 65211
Server; August 1979-May 1980

Maryville College, n/k/a Maryville University
650 Maryville University Drive
St. Louis, MO 63141
Maintenance Worker/Grounds Crew; Summer Breaks: May 1980-August 1980;
June 1981-August 1981

Jones Hall
University of Missouri
105 Jesse Hall, Columbia MO 65211
Front desk clerk; August 1980-May 1981; August 1981-May 1982

Coburn, Croft & Putzell, n/k/a Thompson Coburn LLP
505 N. 7th St. Suite 3500, St. Louis, MO 63101
Clerk Typist, May 1982-August 1982

Captain D's Seafood Restaurant, Columbia, MO
Server, August 1982-October 1982

**Psychology Department, University of Missouri
105 Jesse Hall, Columbia, MO 65211
Clerical Assistant to Professor Richard Thorensen, October 1982-May 1983**

**Coburn Croft & Putzell, n /k/a Thompson Coburn LLP
505 N. 7th St. Suite 3500, St. Louis, MO 63101
Paralegal, May 1983-September 1985**

**Riezman & Blitz, P.C.
7700 Bonhomme, Ste. 700 Clayton, MO 63105
Paralegal/Associate Attorney, September 1985-May 1998**

**The Padberg Law Firm n/k/a Padberg Corrigan & Appelbaum
1926 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, MO 63103
Attorney/Independent contractor; June 1998-December 2000**

**The Lowenbaum Partnership
222 S. Central Ave. Suite 900, St. Louis, MO 63105
Attorney/Independent contractor; June 1998-December 2000**

**Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, L.C.
120 South Central Ave. Suite 1500, Clayton, MO 63105
Associate Attorney/Partner-Member; December 2000-Present**

8. If you are presently an associate circuit judge and have served for two years or longer, attach a list of ten significant cases over which you presided to completion. Set forth the style, cause number, date and name and current address of the primary attorneys participating in each case, identifying the party each attorney represented. Indicate whether bench or jury tried and give a one to three sentence description of each case and its outcome. **N/A**
- (b) In addition, you may attach a list of cases you tried as an attorney in the last five years before becoming a judge. Set forth the style, cause number, date and jurisdiction and identify who you represented, whether you were first or second chair and the name and address of opposing counsel. State for each case whether bench or jury tried and give a one to three sentence description of each case and its outcome.
9. Are you able, with or without a reasonable accommodation, to perform the essential functions of a judge including the ability to preside over trials, perform legal research, attend court anywhere in the state, communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing, and expeditiously decide issues coming before the court?
- Yes**
10. If you have never served as an associate circuit judge or have served for fewer than two years, attach a list of cases you have tried in the last five years. Set forth the style, cause number, date, and court, and identify who you represented, whether you were first or second

chair, and the name and address of opposing counsel. Indicate for each case whether bench or jury tried and provide a one to three sentence description of each case and its outcome. If, during any of the last five years, you served as a commissioner or in any other judicial capacity, set forth the dates of same and a description of the duties performed.

See attached list

11. Have you briefed or argued any case before any appellate court? **Yes**
If yes, attach a list showing the citation for each case and describe the extent of your participation in briefing and arguing the case.

See attached list

12. Set forth any additional information that demonstrates the quality of your legal work as an attorney. **See attached**

13. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony? **No.**
If yes, provide details, including the style of the case, cause number, name of the jurisdiction, and date of conviction:

14. Have you ever been sued by a client or been a party to any other litigation, other than as guardian ad litem, plaintiff ad litem or defendant ad litem? **I was a party to the foreign adoption recognition proceedings in St. Louis County Circuit Court relating to the adoption of our two sons from the country of Belarus in 1995. I participated as a party in the adoption proceedings before a Belarussian Judge in the City of Minsk, Belarus for the adoption of our daughter in December 1999. I have never been personally sued by a client.**
If yes, provide details, including the style of the case, cause number, name of the jurisdiction and the approximate year in which such litigation was commenced and in which it was terminated:

15. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for breach of ethics or professional conduct by a court or by any bar association or committee thereof? **No.**
If yes, provide details:

16. Have you ever been held in contempt of court? **No.**
If yes, provide details:

17. If you are or were a member of the Judiciary of the State of Missouri, please state:

- (a) Whether an order of reprimand, removal, retirement, suspension or other disciplinary action has ever been entered against you by the Supreme Court of Missouri for breach of the Code of Judicial Conduct or the Canons of Judicial Conduct?
If yes, state the nature of such breach, the date discipline was imposed and the exact nature and duration of the discipline imposed:

- (b) Whether a reprimand or admonishment has ever been entered against you by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline for any of the causes specified in Rule 12.07 of the Supreme Court Rules Governing the Judiciary.

If yes, provide details including date the order was entered, the date of your consent, and a description of the conduct you were ordered to cease and desist:

- (c) Whether, to your knowledge, you have been a subject of a complaint and investigation by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline, which did not result in any action by the Commission? If yes, provide details:

18. To your knowledge, have you been investigated by a court or by any bar association or committee thereof for breach of ethics or professional conduct? **No.**

If yes, provide details:

19. List all bar associations and other professional societies, of which you are a member, with any offices held and dates:

Missouri Bar Association

Women Lawyers' Association of St. Louis; Board Member, Charity Committee Co-chair, CLE Co-chair, September 2014 to Present

20. Describe your community activities, including any organizations, not listed above, with which you are affiliated:

Guardian Angel Settlement Association, Board Member, Auction Committee Member, July 2014-Present

USO of Missouri-Volunteer, 2009 to present

St. Gerard Magella Catholic Church, Parishioner, Volunteer PSR fund raisers and "Fall Fest" Volunteer 1998-2011

John F. Kennedy Catholic High School, Auction Committee, Parent Volunteer, 2010-2012

Parkway School District (Barretts Elementary, Parkway South Middle and High Schools): Parent Volunteer/Room Mother-various times from 1998-Present

Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri-Brownie Leader 2006-2008

Small World Adoption Foundation –Participated in fund raising events, 1995-2003

21. Do you now hold or have you ever held any elective or appointive public office or position? **No.**

If yes, provide details:

22. Provide the branches and dates of (a) military service, or (b) other public service, not otherwise covered in this application. If discharged from the military, was the discharge other than honorable? If military service continues, so state: **N/A**

23. List any professional articles or books which have been published or any special recognition or award of a professional nature which you have received: N/A

24. Furnish the names and addresses, including zip codes and telephone numbers of not more than five persons, who are not judges, as references with respect to your judicial qualifications:

1. Mr. Robert D. Blitz, Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, L.C., 120 South Central Avenue, Suite 1500, Clayton, MO 63105; 314-863-1500
2. Ms. Colleen C. Jones, Cook, Ysursa, Bartholomew, Brauer, & Shevlin, 1 W. Lincoln St., Belleville, IL 62220-2018, 618-310-3050
3. Ms. Katharyn Davis, Davis & Travaglini, LLC, 1420 Strassner Drive Industrial Court, St. Louis, MO 63144; 314-962-1115
4. Mr. Gerald M. Richardson, Evans & Dixon, L.L.C., 211 North Broadway, Suite 2500, St. Louis, MO 63102-2727; 314-621-7755
5. Mr. Matthew J. Padberg, Padberg, Corrigan & Appelbaum, 1926 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63103; 314-621-2900

25. State any additional data you deem relevant:

Other than when I attended college at the University of Missouri from 1979-1983, I have resided in the St. Louis Metropolitan area, primarily in St. Louis County. I grew up in Florissant, Missouri and attended Ferguson-Florissant public schools until high school. I attended St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School in Florissant and then John F. Kennedy Catholic High School in West St. Louis County.

While in college I served as a legislative intern to a Missouri State Representative from Kansas City (Leo McKamey, (D.) 36th Dist.). During my time as a legislative intern we worked on legislation seeking to increase funding for the Missouri Highway Patrol.

I graduated *cum laude* from St. Louis University Law School in December 1990. I attended the night division while working full time as a paralegal and then law clerk at Riezman & Blitz P.C. I ultimately transferred to the day division for my final semester while continuing to work part-time at the firm.

I married Peter J. Dunne on May 30, 1987 and we recently celebrated our 29th anniversary. Peter is a principal with the firm of Pitzer, Snodgrass, P.C. and has been my mentor and supporter throughout these many years. We have three children: Sergei G. Dunne, age 24, Nikolai W. Dunne, age 22, Diana C. Dunne, age 17. As mentioned above, our children are from the country of Belarus. We traveled to Belarus on three separate occasions to finalize the adoption process. The adoption of our children is the single most important thing I have ever done. I am very proud of each of them. It has been extremely rewarding and challenging. The adoption of our children not only provided me with a family, but also exposed me to another culture and the vagaries of other legal systems making me grateful and appreciative of our own U.S. legal system.

Ellen Wyatt Dunne

Judicial Application Supplement

Item 10: List of cases tried within the last five years:

1. *In re Richard P. Baxter and Clare S. Baxter, Debtor; Old Republic National Title Company and Old Republic Title Company of St. Louis, Plaintiff v. Richard P. Baxter, et al.*, United States Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Missouri, Adversary Proceeding no. -09-04225

First Chair, bench tried case on May 12, 2010. I represented Old Republic National Title Company and Old Republic Title Company of St. Louis. The case was an adversary proceeding in bankruptcy seeking a declaratory judgment that the Debtor's debt was not dischargeable for fraud under 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(2)(A). The trial court entered judgment in favor of Old Republic National Title Company and Old Republic Title Company of St. Louis declaring the debtor's debt not dischargeable.

Opposing counsel:

Deanna Angeli Foley
Attorney at Law
2531 Hampton Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63139

2. *Fifth Third Bank, Plaintiff v. Graphic Design, Inc. d/b/a Paradowski Creative, Alexander Paradowski, Nila Paradowski and 1891 Locust, LLC*, Circuit Court, City of St. Louis, Cause No. 12222-CC09567

First Chair, bench tried evidentiary hearing on October 2, 2013 and October 8, 2013. I represented Defendants Graphic Design, Inc., Alexander Paradowski, Nila Paradowski and 1891 Locust, LLC. The Plaintiff sued Defendants to enforce promissory notes and personal guaranties. The court appointed a Receiver for Defendant Graphic Design, Inc. The evidentiary hearing concerned Plaintiff's Motion to Discharge Receiver and Defendant's opposition to such Discharge. The trial court granted the motion to discharge the receiver.

Opposing counsel:

Bruce Lemoine
Sara Finan Melly
Armstrong Teasdale LLP
7700 Forsyth, Suite 1800
St. Louis, MO 63105

Alan J. Statman
Heather M. Thacker
Statman, Harris & Eyrich, LLC
441 Vine Street, Suite 3700
Cincinnati OH 45202
attorneys for Plaintiff

Wendy Alper Pressman
Lathrop & Gage,
7701 Forsyth Blvd., Suite 500
Clayton, MO 63105
attorneys for Woodruff Communications, third party defendant

Robert H. Brownlee
Thompson Coburn LLP
One US Bank Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
attorneys for Receiver, Rally Management Company, LLC

3. *Michael Kaplan, et al. v. Christine Murray Kaplan*, St. Louis County Circuit Court Cause no. 13SL-PR2110,

Jury and simultaneous bench trial on March 3, 2015-March 24, 2015. I was a member of the team that represented Defendants Christine Murray Kaplan and Steve Koelling. The suit involved a complex multi-million dollar trust contest and discovery of assets proceeding. The plaintiff, decedent's son sought to invalidate certain trust amendments and an inter vivos gift to defendant. The jury entered a verdict in favor of the plaintiff on the discovery of assets claim, but the plaintiffs were not permitted to submit the issue of damages to the jury. The Court, however, entered judgment in defendants' favor on the trust contest claim, determining that three of the trust amendments were valid wherein the decedent bequeathed the bulk of his estate to our client. My participation included drafting motions in limine, preparing trial witnesses and expert witnesses for testimony, organizing and preparing trial exhibits, assisting with jury selection during voir dire and assisting with exhibit presentation during certain witnesses' testimony. I also was responsible for substantial work on pre-trial motion practice, including some pre-trial motion arguments and evidentiary hearings.

Opposing Counsel:

Catherine Hanaway
Robert J. Hurtt Jr.
Husch Blackwell, LLP
The Plaza in Clayton
190 Carondelet Plaza, Suite 600
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Russell Piccoli
Russell Piccoli, PLC
701 N. 44th Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85008

Charles A. Redd
Nicole S. Zellweger
Stinson Leonard Street
7700 Forsyth Blvd., Ste. 1100
St. Louis, MO 63105

Matthew J. Rossiter
Rossiter & Boock, LLC
124 Gay Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Item 11. Appellate Briefs and Arguments

1. *Preston v. Preston*, 823 S.W. 2d 48 (Mo. App. E.D. 1991). I participated in preparing Respondent's Brief.
2. *Lisa Anne Varner et al. v. National Supermarkets, Inc.*, 94 F.3d 1209 (8th Cir. 1996). I prepared Respondent's Brief and argued the case.
3. *State ex rel. Maynes Construction Co., Inc. v. City of Wildwood*, 965 S.W. 2d 949 (Mo. App. E.D. 1998). I prepared Respondent's Brief.
4. *Northwest Chrysler Plymouth, Inc. d/b/a Don Schunk Chrysler Jeep v. Daimler Chrysler Corp., et al.* 168 S.W. 3d 693 (Mo. App. E.D. 2005). I prepared Respondent's Brief and argued the case.
5. *In re Marriage of Busch*, 310 S.W. 3d 253 (Mo. App. ED. 2010). I prepared Respondent's Brief and argued the case.
6. *James P. Davis, et al v. City of St. Peters*, 325 S.W. 3d 419 (Mo. App. E.D. 2010). I prepared Respondent's Brief and argued the case.
7. *The Business Bank of Saint Louis v. Old Republic National Title Insurance Co.*, 322 S.W. 3d 548 (Mo. App. E.D. 2010). I prepared Respondent's Brief. (First Appeal)
8. *The Business Bank of St. Louis v. Beaker, LLC et al*, 453 S.W.3d 317 (Mo. App. E.D. 2014). I prepared Respondent's Brief and argued the case. (Second Appeal)

Insert to Judicial Application; Items 12 and 25.

Although I did not know any attorneys growing up, by the time I was in high school I had firmly decided that I wanted to be an attorney. In fact, a male high school classmate signed my yearbook with the statement "you're an ok girl even if you do want to be a lawyer". My decision to be an attorney has been one of the most significant decisions I have made and I have been fortunate to have a long and interesting career.

I started my legal career as college student when I was employed as a clerk typist for the summer law clerks at the firm of Coburn Croft and Putzell, P.C. during my college summer break in 1982. Following college graduation I was employed first as a legal secretary and then a Paralegal at that firm. The first time I entered a court room was when I was assigned to attend and take notes of the trial of *Diversified Industries v. AT & T*, an antitrust case before United States District Court Judge H. Kenneth Wangelin. I attended every day of the three month trial, taking notes, assisting with exhibit handling and acting as a runner.

I was then assigned to work as a Paralegal Assistant to the "medical team" in the defense of the *Kemner v. Monsanto* case, which was, at the time, the longest jury trial in the history of American jurisprudence. I worked on the case for over two years, although the jury trial lasted approximately four years. The case was tried in St. Clair County, Illinois. Sixty five plaintiffs claimed damages allegedly resulting from exposure to dioxin following a train derailment in Sturgeon, Missouri. My duties included assisting in presentation of the defense medical evidence at trial and preparing the medical expert witnesses for their testimony. My experiences in working on those two cases and my subsequent experience as a paralegal at Riezman & Blitz, P.C. solidified my desire to become a litigation attorney and afforded me a legal education that would be difficult to replicate.

Since graduating from law school, I have spent the majority of my professional career as an attorney working for two law firms-first for Riezman & Blitz, P.C. and subsequently for Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, L.C. Both firms engaged in a wide variety of litigation related practice areas. As a result, during my twenty -five years as a practicing attorney I have a broad base of experience in many types of cases. Throughout that time I have represented both plaintiffs and defendants in all types of civil matters, probate matters, family court matters, bankruptcy court matters, administrative matters and several criminal matters. I have also represented clients in non-litigation business, real estate and employment matters.

I have appeared before the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Missouri, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Arizona, Missouri Court of Appeals, St. Louis County, Missouri, Circuit and Associate Circuit Courts, St. Louis City, Missouri Circuit and Associate Circuit Courts, Jefferson County, Missouri, Circuit Court, St. Charles County, Missouri, Circuit and Associate Circuit Courts, Boone County, Missouri Circuit Court, St. Clair County, Illinois Circuit Court, Macoupin County, Illinois Circuit Court, Madison County, Illinois Circuit Court, Perry County, Illinois Circuit Court and several municipal courts throughout St. Louis County.

In addition, I have appeared before Administrative Law Judges of the Missouri Division of Workers Compensation, the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, United States Social Security Administration and the Missouri Division of Employment Security. I have participated in mediations with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Missouri Human Rights Commission. I have participated in numerous private mediations. I have been certified as a Guardian Ad Litem and have served as Guardian Ad Litem in family court matters.

The cases I have worked on have involved the following areas of law: 1) plaintiff's personal injury claims including auto accident cases, slip and falls, assaults, and premises liability as well as defense of premises liability/dram shop cases, 2) employment claims, including prosecution and defense of Title VII claims, Missouri Human Rights Act claims and Illinois Civil Rights Act claims involving sexual harassment, sex/gender discrimination, age discrimination, FMLA claims, ADA claims, as well as prosecution and defense of claims for enforcement of non-competition agreements, breach or enforcement of employment agreements, trade secrets act violations and wrongful terminations; 3) complex commercial litigation; including prosecution and defenses of claims involving: breach of contract, breach of duty of good faith and fair dealing, tortious interference, fraud, negligence and conspiracy claims, 4) civil rights claims, including defense of prisoner's claims under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983 5) real estate law and litigation :including prosecution and defense of claims involving quiet title actions, adverse possession claims, reformation of instruments, loan proceed disbursement disputes, title insurance coverage related matters; unlawful detainer actions, and rent and possession claims, 6) insurance coverage matters and bad faith claims, 7)workers' compensation claims, 8) defense of unemployment claims, 9) bankruptcy related matters such as adversary proceedings before the bankruptcy court, 10) replevin actions; 11) equitable matters including temporary restraining orders and preliminary and permanent injunctions, and writs of mandamus, 12) family court matters including contested and non-contested divorces, motions to modify, and post-dissolution motions, adoption, recognition of foreign adoption decrees, name change petitions and GAL appointments, 13) criminal matters, including defense of first degree murder, and drug related charges, 14) creditor's rights including prosecution and defenses of fraudulent conveyance claims, execution and garnishment matters, 15) lender's liability claims and defenses, defense of claims on a promissory note, personal guaranties and receivership issues and 16) probate related litigation matters.

I have also represented clients in non-litigation matters such as the drafting of asset purchase agreements, non-competition agreements, non-disclosure agreements, arbitration agreements, employee handbooks, employee policies, employee warning forms, separation and severance agreements and annexation plans for municipalities. I also have been retained by clients for general legal advice.

I have personally first chaired only two jury trials, but I gained valuable experience and lessons from both of them. The first case I tried was a jury trial before Judge Donald Stohr of the U.S. District Court. I represented the Missouri Department of Corrections and corrections officers in an excessive force case filed by an inmate. The jury returned a verdict in favor of my clients.

My second jury trial was an auto accident/personal injury case before Judge Bernhardt Drumm in St. Louis County. The opposing counsel was Eugene Buckley. It was an educational experience to try a case against such a well- respected trial lawyer. The case settled after a day and a half of trial.

Since those two early cases, I have tried several bench trials and have second chaired numerous jury and bench trials. A few illustrative cases include:

 *et al. v. National Supermarkets, Inc.* U.S. District Court, E.D.Mo. Cause no. 4:93CV00663 JCH. I served as second chair to Robert Blitz in representing a 17 year old grocery worker who was sexually assaulted by a 52 year old co-employee. The jury rendered a verdict in favor of the Plaintiff. The judgment on the verdict was affirmed on appeal by the Eighth Circuit.

State of Missouri v. Christopher Santillan, St. Louis County Circuit Court Cause no. 2192R-01675-01I served as second chair to Robert Blitz in defending Mr. Santillan on first degree murder and armed criminal action charges. The jury found the defendant guilty. However, objections at trial and post-trial motions preserved the issue of failure to instruct on lesser including offense, resulting in the Missouri Supreme Court reversing and remanding for a new trial.

Lipton Investments, L.P v. Torsten Bjerregard v. Lipton Investments, L.P. U.S.D.C. ED.Mo Cause no. 4:02CV00050 AGF. I was first chair counsel for Defendant Torsten Bjerregard. The plaintiff sued to enforce certain promissory notes and Defendant counterclaimed seeking the court to enforce the terms of the Operating Agreements of five limited liability companies in order to value Defendant's interests therein. The case was tried before the Court and resulted in a settlement after two days of trial.

Nahla S. Stanford v. F. Berkley Hudson and Milbre E. Burch v. Kim Schafermeyer and Ana Rueda, Boone County Circuit Court Cause no. 05BA-CV01675. I was first chair counsel for third party defendants Kim Schafermeyer and Ana Rueda. The Plaintiff sued Defendants Hudson and Burch for adverse possession and Defendants sued Schafermeyer and Rueda for breach of warranty of title. In a bench tried case the Court entered judgment in favor of the defendants on the adverse title claim and in favor of third party defendants Schafermeyer and Rueda on the breach of warranty of title claim.

Northwest Chrysler Plymouth d/b/a Don Schunk Chrysler Jeep v. Daimler Chrysler Corp. City of St. Louis Circuit Court, Cause no. 042-00404. I served as second chair to lead counsel Colleen Jones in products liability and breach of contract suit in which we represented the plaintiff for damages arising out of a dealership fire resulting from a defective vehicle that spontaneously combusted. The case was to be tried to a jury but settled before the start of the second day of trial.

James P. Davis, et al. v. City of St. Peters, St. Louis County Circuit Court, Cause no. 07 CC-003383J-CV, I served as second chair to lead co-counsel Colleen Jones and Robert Blitz in a bench tried case. We represented the plaintiffs. The case sought to determine ownership interest

to a quarry located in St. Charles County. The court entered judgment in favor of the plaintiffs which was affirmed on appeal.

The cases discussed in this application, along with all of the other matters I have worked on but did not include due to space restrictions, have provided me with a broad base of legal knowledge and experience from which I can draw upon should I be appointed as a Judge in the 21st Judicial Circuit. I have been privileged to work with, and to oppose, many highly skilled and successful attorneys and I have had many opportunities to appear before and observe some of the best Judges in this state. I have learned valuable lessons from all of them including the virtues of patience, dedication, diligence and courtesy.

My employment background and educational history demonstrates that I am a hard worker. I believe that I have earned a reputation for good character and for honesty, fairness, courtesy and respect with opposing counsel and in the courts in which I have appeared. My character traits for being a good listener, for compassion and empathy, for adherence to law but flexibility in seeking a reasonable construction or interpretation of the law such that its spirit and intent can be realized are positive attributes that would serve me well if I am appointed to be a Judge in the 21st Judicial Circuit.

Ellen W. Dunne
Biographical sketch

Ellen W. Dunne was born and raised in St. Louis Missouri. She is a Member of the law firm of Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, L.C. located in Clayton, Missouri. Ellen practices in the areas of general civil and complex commercial litigation, employment law and litigation, real estate law and family law. In 1983, Ellen graduated from the University of Missouri, Columbia with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and received her Juris Doctor from Saint Louis University School of Law in December 1990. She is licensed to practice law in the following jurisdictions: United States Supreme Court, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri, State of Missouri and the State of Illinois, Ellen is married and has three children.