

MARY KATHERINE (MARNE) SHERMAN

201 Beresford Place
Columbia, South Carolina 29210
Telephone: 803-216-9994

December 15, 2014

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Re: Department of Social Services Director Position

Dear Governor Haley:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of my resume in application for the position of the Director of the South Carolina Department of Social Services. I have a plethora of legal experience, having been a legal assistant before I went to law school (and, thus, supporting attorneys) and having had my own office as a practitioner in the area of domestic litigation for approximately fourteen (14) years. From that which I have read in the media, I am very much aware that the leadership of the Agency needs to be accountable and have a vision as to how the Agency can better serve the needs of those who need to rely on it. I realize that this can be a daunting and challenging position for which to apply. What has concerned me in the media is the overwhelming consensus screams for the Agency to change and those who represent the Agency in hearings do not seem to have the saavy to be candid and blunt about the shortcomings of the Agency.

After many months of deep consideration and thought, I have come to the conclusion that, while never serving in any governmental position, perhaps what the Agency needs is someone who has been on the outside looking in, rather than someone who is on the inside without having any non-governmental experience.

I realize that being the face of an Agency will be a challenge and that dealing with the Agency's shortcomings will be more than a challenge, yet I feel that my education and experience should not be overlooked.

In October, 2014, I applied for an attorney position with the Richland County segment of the Agency. The week before Thanksgiving, I received a telephone call for an interview with the Agency. The interview was scheduled on the Friday before Thanksgiving and I have heard nothing from the Agency since the interview, despite having been told that I would be notified during the first week in December, 2014, as to whether a second interview would be scheduled. I have written to the interviewer, as

well as the person who scheduled the interview, and I have received no response, despite having been told during the interview how understaffed the Richland County segment of the Agency was. To me, if an Agency is understaffed and overworked, it should not take a month to make a decision as to whether to recall an applicant. Being cognizant that there is a difference between working for a governmental agency and being in private practice, to wit: that there are times when one's schedule is overflowing and that there are times when the tasks to be done are not overwhelming, I realize that the Director's position does not begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. Long hours are not a problem for me. More frequently than not, when I was in private practice, my office may have closed at 6:00 p.m., but I was still on the job until it was done. If I had to work on Saturdays and Sundays to complete my goal, then I did not have a weekend, something with which I am certain you fully understand.

I would consider it a privilege and an honor to be considered for the position for which I am applying.

I have not listed any references on my resume. I have worked directly and indirectly for a number of years with Kermit S. King, Esquire, whom I consider to be the "DEAN" of the Family Court Bar in South Carolina. Mr. King would not be hesitant to speak candidly on my behalf. He can be reached at 803-772-3242 (office) or 803-920-1902 (cellular). If other references are needed, I will supply them.

Again, thank you for taking time to review this letter and my resume and to give me consideration for the position.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marne Sherman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Respectfully,".

Marne Sherman

Enclosure: Resume

Mary Katherine (Marne) Sherman

201 Beresford Place
Columbia, South Carolina 29210
Home: 803 216-9994
Cellular: 803 727-7575
E-Mail: marnesherman@att.net

Education:

- 1974 Rutgers University
University College
New Brunswick, New Jersey
Degree Obtained: B.A. in French
- 1977 Rutgers University
Graduate School of Library and Information Science
New Brunswick, New Jersey
Degree Obtained: Master's Degree in Library and Information Science
- 1983 Seton Hall University School of Law
Newark, New Jersey
Degree Obtained: Juris Doctorate

Bar Admissions:

New Jersey, 1988
South Carolina, 1993

Employment Experience:

- 1974-1976 Wilentz, Goldman and Spitzer
Attorneys At Law
Perth Amboy, New Jersey
Now located in Woodbridge, New Jersey
- Legal Librarian for six (6) weeks. Asked to become the firm's first legal assistant, which required an undergraduate degree, in the areas of landlord/tenant work and collection work
- 1976-1981 Shanley and Fisher
Attorneys at Law
Newark, New Jersey
This firm was purchased in recent years by Dinker, Biddle whose main office is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Senior litigation assistant in complex litigation matters, one of which involved 900+ plaintiffs and 43 defendants and this was not a class action suit. I accepted the position with no guarantee that I would be offered a position after this litigation was settled or tried. When I handed the office manager my resignation, I was asked for which senior partner I wanted to work. I worked for the remainder of my employment on a product liability action involving a 40 year guaranteed cargo container crane which failed within months of being installed.

1981-1983 Connell, Foley and Geiser
Attorneys at Law
Newark, New Jersey (now located in Roseland, New Jersey)

Senior litigation assistant in complex litigation in construction law.

1983-1985 Lowenstein, Sandler, Brochin, Kohl, Fisher, Boylan and Meanor
Attorneys at Law
Roseland, New Jersey

Senior litigation assistant and supervisor for all litigation legal assistants. I worked in the area of complex litigation, including age discrimination. I also assisted the senior litigation assistant in the corporate department with proofreading all documents necessary and editing same for all IPO's.

1976-1991 Kermit S. King, P. A.
1426 Richland Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Mr. King's only litigation assistant for domestic law cases, which included doing any and all legal research for Mr. King and preparing cases for hearings and trials and I was responsible for all discovery in such cases

1991-1994 Edmund H. Monteith (retired from practice now)
Attorney at Law
Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Worked in the same capacity for Mr. Monteith as I did for Mr. King until 1993 when I finally took the SC Bar Exam and passed it. Then, I became his associate to lighten his work load.

1994-1996 Lide, Montgomery & Potts
Attorneys at Law
1722 Main Street

Columbia, South Carolina

Associate in the firm for all domestic litigation cases.

1996-1999 B. J. Cobb
Attorney at Law
Assembly Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Associate and partner to Ms. Cobb for all domestic litigation cases.

1999
Until
Present Marne Sherman, P.A.
301 Stoneridge Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

I have been a solo practitioner in domestic litigation cases, having had three staff persons to assist me for the majority of the time.