

**ELEVENTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE VACANCY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 17, 2019

**CONTACT: Hayden P. O’Byrne, Chair**  
Eleventh Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission

Telephone: (305) 539-3381

MIAMI –The Eleventh Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission hereby seeks applicants to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Rodney Smith. The Commission requests that interested candidates submit an application for consideration. Applicants must meet the qualifications for circuit court judges described in Article V, Section 8 of the Florida Constitution. Applicants must submit three copies (3) of their application by **5:00 pm on Friday, June 28, 2019<sup>1</sup>** as follows:

**(1):** The original unredacted paper application shall be delivered to:

**Hayden P. O’Byrne**  
K&L Gates, LLP  
200 S. Biscayne Blvd. 39th Floor  
Miami, FL 33131-2399

**(2):** The original unredacted application shall be emailed in .pdf format to: [hayden.obyrne@klgates.com](mailto:hayden.obyrne@klgates.com); [walter.harvey@dadeschools.net](mailto:walter.harvey@dadeschools.net) and [etna.medina@klgates.com](mailto:etna.medina@klgates.com).

**(3):** A redacted .pdf of the application shall be emailed to [eleventhcircuitjnc@klgates.com](mailto:eleventhcircuitjnc@klgates.com). Personal information not subject to public disclosure—such as the social security number—shall be redacted as permitted by Section 119.071 of the Florida Statutes.

**Untimely applications will not be considered.** The filename for .pdf applications should be as follows “19.5.10 FIRSTNAME LASTNAME Circuit Application (redacted /unredacted).”

Applicants are invited to provide the Chair with a one page sheet listing the date, location and time of hearings or trials that they would want the Commissioners to observe. The one page disclosure sheet is not mandatory and can be provided to the Chair at any time before the interview day. *No information other than the date, location and time should be provided on the one page sheet.*

Applications may be downloaded from the Florida Bar’s website at [www.flabar.org](http://www.flabar.org) and the Office of the Governor at [www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com). Applicants should include a recent photograph.

**NOTE TO APPLICANTS:** To assist the Judicial Nominating Commission in its review of applications, all questions must be fully and completely answered. Applications must include

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<sup>1</sup> All persons who applied to the Ruiz, Gordo and Sampedro-Iglesia vacancies will be considered for the Smith vacancy without having to re-apply. Persons interviewing on July 2, 2019 will not be re-interviewed separately for the Smith vacancy.

current contact information, including e-mail addresses, for judges, co-counsel, opposing counsel, and references to facilitate the background investigation that will be conducted by the members of the Commission. Please print to .pdf in lieu of scanning where possible.

The Eleventh Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission will confer at 5:00 p.m. on July 2, 2019 to schedule interviews. A room will be made available to members of the public (K&L Gates, LLP, 200 S. Biscayne Blvd. 39th Floor, Miami, FL 33131) who wish to attend.

**ELEVENTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION MEMBERS**

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| <p>Hayden P. O’Byrne (<i>Chair</i>)<br/>K&amp;L Gates<br/>Southeast Financial Center, Suite 3900<br/>200 South Biscayne Blvd.<br/>Miami, FL 33131<br/>Tel.: 305-539-3381<br/><a href="mailto:hayden.obyrne@klgates.com">hayden.obyrne@klgates.com</a></p> | <p>Walter James Harvey (<i>Vice Chair</i>)<br/>School Board Attorney’s Office<br/>1450 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 400<br/>Miami, FL 33132<br/>Tel.: 305-995-1304/Fax: 305-995-1412<br/><a href="mailto:walter.harvey@dadeschools.net">walter.harvey@dadeschools.net</a></p> |
| <p>Paul Huck, Jr.<br/>Jones Day<br/>600 Brickell Avenue<br/>Brickell World Plaza, Suite 3300<br/>Miami, FL 33131<br/>Tel.: 305-714-9700/Fax: 305-714-9799<br/><a href="mailto:paulhuck@jonesday.com">paulhuck@jonesday.com</a></p>                        | <p>Daniel S. Fridman<br/>White &amp; Case LLP<br/>Southeast Financial Center<br/>200 So. Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 4900<br/>Miami, FL 33131<br/>Tel.: 305-995-5264<br/><a href="mailto:daniel.fridman@whitecase.com">daniel.fridman@whitecase.com</a></p>                        |
| <p>Robert H. Fernandez<br/>Gunster Law Firm<br/>Brickell World Plaza<br/>600 Brickell Avenue, Suite 3500<br/>Miami, FL 33131<br/>Tel.: 305-376-6000/Fax: 786-425-4119<br/><a href="mailto:rfernandez@gunster.com">rfernandez@gunster.com</a></p>          | <p>Robert R. Pardo<br/>Robert R. Pardo, P.A.<br/>7700 N. Kendall Drive, Suite 512<br/>Miami, FL 33156<br/>Tel.: 305-596-7794/Fax: 305-596-5854<br/><a href="mailto:rpardo@pardolaw.com">rpardo@pardolaw.com</a></p>  |
| <p>Christine Hernandez<br/>United States Attorney's Office<br/>99 N.E. 4th Street<br/>Miami, Fl. 33132<br/>Tel.: 305-961-9001<br/><a href="mailto:chern25@aol.com">chern25@aol.com</a></p>  | <p>Jorge A. Mestre<br/>Rivero Mestre, LLP<br/>2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1000<br/>Miami, FL 33134<br/>Tel: 305-445-2500<br/><a href="mailto:jmestre@riveromestre.com">jmestre@riveromestre.com</a></p>   |
| <p>Scott M. Dimond, Esq.<br/>Dimond Kaplan &amp; Rothstein, P.A.<br/>Offices at Grand Bay Plaza<br/>2665 South Bayshore Dr., PH 2B<br/>Miami, FL 33133<br/>305-374-1920<br/><a href="mailto:sdimond@dkrpa.com">sdimond@dkrpa.com</a></p>                  |  |

