16th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION NOTICE OF CIRCUIT COURT VACANCY AND REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 21, 2024

CONTACT: Bob Shillinger, Chair

Sixteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission

Telephone: (305) 292-3470

Email: Shillinger-Bob@monroecounty-fl.gov

The Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission gives notice that it is accepting applications for the vacancy created by the retirement of Circuit Judge Luis Garcia. All interested applicants, please note the following:

- 1. **Applications for this Sixteenth Circuit Court vacancy must be received no later than the deadline of November 8, 2024 at 5 pm.** Applications shall be delivered pursuant to the instructions set forth in this Notice. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. All applicants must have been members of The Florida Bar for at least five (5) years at the time of submission of applications, must be electors of the State of Florida, and must reside within the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit *before taking office*.
- 2. The application form can be found at: https://www.flgov.com/judicial-and-judicial-nominating-commission-information/. Alternate application forms, including older versions, will not be accepted.
- 3. To be considered, applicants must, without exception, submit the following:
- (a) a .pdf version of the complete, unredacted application with all attachments delivered by email to the Chair at: Shillinger-Bob@monroecounty-fl.gov;
- (b) a .pdf redacted version of the complete application with all attachments, excluding all information deemed confidential and/or exempt under Florida Statutes Chapter 119 (or other applicable public records law), delivered to each Commissioner at the emails listed below. Each .pdf file should be titled with the applicant's full name and indicate whether it is the "original" or "redacted" copy. Please combine the application and all attachments into a single .pdf file;
- (c) all letters of recommendation in your possession that you wish the Commission to consider shall be included as attachments to the original application and the redacted copy;
- (d) the financial disclosure information requested in the application, inclusive of a completed Form 6 (Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interest), must be submitted as part of the original application and the redacted application;
- (e) a recent photograph of the applicant shall be attached to the original and redacted applications; and,

- (f) any additional information which you feel may be helpful to the Commission in assessing your qualifications shall be included as attachments to the original and the copies of the application.
- 4. Please strictly follow all requests and instructions in this Notice and fully answer all questions in the application; failure to do so could result in your application not being considered.
- 5. The Commission strongly suggests that you submit your application as soon as it is prepared, and well before the deadline.
- 6. With the exception of deliberations, all proceedings of the Commission including interviews will be open to the public. Accordingly, and subject to applicable Florida Statutes, you *should not* expect your application and information to be kept confidential. All meetings will be publically noticed at a future date.
- 8. If an applicant is nominated, all materials attached to the original application will be submitted to the Governor's Office. Please note that the Governor's Office may request additional copies of same.
- 9. Please contact the Chair of the Commission with any questions about the application process at:

Bob Shillinger Monroe County Attorney's Office 1111 12th Street, Suite 408 Key West, FL 33040 Phone (305) 292-3470

Fax (305) 292-3516

Email: Shillinger-Bob@monroecounty-fl.gov

cc: Members of the Sixteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission

Michael Puto, Vice Chair, Mikeputo@aol.com;

Anthony J. Barrows, Esq. <u>Tony@keysclosings.com;</u>

Roget V. Bryan, Esq. <u>RBryan@cohb.org</u>;

Richard McChesney, Esq., Richard@spottswoodlaw.com;

Nicholas W. Mulick, Esq., Nick@mulicklaw.com;

Ashley Sybesma, Esq. <u>Ashley@thesmithlawfirm.com</u>;

Timothy N. Thomes, Esq. Tthomes@gunster.com; gbwpa@bellsouth.net.