

*For Immediate Release*

September 26, 2023

Contact: Helen Peacock Roberson, Chair

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**FOURTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION  
ANNOUNCES FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT VACANCY**

As a result of the retirement of Judge Don Lester, there exists a vacancy on the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court Bench. Governor Ron DeSantis has asked the Fourth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission to provide him with highly qualified nominees to fill this vacancy.

Complete unredacted and redacted applications (see below for more information) for this vacancy must be received **before** 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, October 13, 2023** via e-mail to: [hroberson@woundedwarriorproject.org](mailto:hroberson@woundedwarriorproject.org). We would prefer, but will not require, that applicants submit a total of two (2) PDF documents containing all application materials, attachments, photographs, etc. The documents should be styled "Lastname.Firstname.RedactedApplication.pdf" and "Lastname.Firstname.UnredactedApplication.pdf".

Applications may be downloaded from the Florida Bar's website at [www.floridabar.org](http://www.floridabar.org) or the Office of the Governor at [www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com).

Interviews will be held on **Thursday, October 26, 2023**, in Chief Judge Lance M. Day's Chambers on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of the Duval County Courthouse.

**Neither incomplete applications nor applications submitted after the deadline will be considered.** Further, all applicants must meet the qualifications for Judges outlined in Article V, Section 8 of the Florida Constitution.

Personal information not subject to public disclosure should be redacted on a separate copy of the application as permitted by Section 119.071 of the Florida Statutes. Please also e-mail a digital photo with the applications. All questions on the application must be fully and completely answered. Applications must include current contact information (especially direct phone numbers), including e-mail addresses for judges, co-counsel, opposing counsel, and references to facilitate the background investigation that the Commission will conduct.

All proceedings of the Judicial Nominating Commission are open to the public except for deliberations. Applicants, therefore, should not expect their application to be kept confidential.

If an applicant is nominated, all materials attached to the original application will be submitted to Governor DeSantis' Office.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Helen Peacock Roberson at the number or email address above. *Applicants shall not initiate contact with the Commissioners until the nominees are submitted to Governor DeSantis unless questions pertain to the application process only.*