



RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

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850-717-9418

April 7, 2021

Ms. Courtney Grimm  
Chair – Fourth Circuit  
Judicial Nominating Commission  
PO Box 1366  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-1366

Dear Ms. Grimm:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Fourth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for appointment to the Duval County Court. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Ronald Higbee. The Governor strongly prefers submission of the maximum number of nominees (six) for the vacancy.

The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is **Friday, May 7, 2021**. In cases where a discretionary extension of no more than thirty days is needed, as authorized by Article V, Section 11(c) of the Florida Constitution, please contact me.

Administrative support for the Commission will be provided by the Governor's Office, pursuant to section 43.291(7), Florida Statutes. This includes all essential administrative needs such as document distribution, public announcements and the like. Our JNC Coordinator Emily Dunson (850-717-9310; Emily.Dunson@eog.myflorida.com) will contact you to these ends.

The Commission's handling of this matter is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Uthmeier".

James Uthmeier  
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Mark H. Mahon  
Chief Judge