



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

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April 20, 2022

Ms. Christine L. Derr
Chair – Thirteenth Judicial Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission
100 S. Ashley Dr. Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33602

Dear Ms. Derr:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for appointment to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and Hillsborough County Courts. This appointment is to fill the vacancies created by the resignation of Judge Emmett Lamar Battles, effective December 31, 2022, and the elevation of Judge James S. Moody, III, effective April 18, 2022. The Governor strongly prefers submission of the maximum number of nominees (six) for each vacancy.

The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is **Friday, May 20, 2022**. In cases where a discretionary extension 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 Annie Ortega (850-717-9448; Annie.Ortega@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 "Ryan Newman".

Ryan Newman
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Ronald Ficarrota
Chief Judge