



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

www.flgov.com
850-717-9418

October 18, 2024

Mr. Zack Smith

Dear Mr. Smith:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the First 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 First Judicial Circuit Court. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Bergosh. 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 **Tuesday, December 17, 2024**.

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 Director of Judicial Appointments, Meredith Pardo (850-717-9448; Meredith.Pardo@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 John L. Miller
Chief Judge