



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

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850-717-9418

August 13, 2021

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 Hillsborough County Court. These appointments are to fill the remaining three out of six new vacancies effective July 1, 2021. 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 **Sunday, September 12, 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 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 "James Uthmeier".

James Uthmeier
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Ronald Ficarrota
Chief Judge