



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

www.flgov.com
850-717-9418

July 9, 2021

Ms. Krista Mahalak
Chair – Tenth Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission
Peterson & Myers, P.A.
PO Box 7608
Winter Haven, FL 33883

Dear Ms. Mahalak:

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

The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is **Sunday, August 8, 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 Ellen Masters
Tenth Judicial Circuit Chief Judge