

THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION ANNOUNCES COUNTY COURT JUDICIAL VACANCIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2021

Christine Derr, Chair, christine@harrishunt derr.com

Thirteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission

TELEPHONE: (813) 223-5421

As a result of the six new Thirteenth Judicial Circuit County Court vacancies effective July 1, 2021, Governor Ron DeSantis has convened the Thirteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission to select and submit the names of highly qualified candidates to fill three of the six vacancies.

Judicial applications for this vacancy must be received **before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 2, 2021**, at the following location:

c/o Christine Derr, Chair
Thirteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission
Harris, Hunt & Derr, P.A.
Wells Fargo Center
100 South Ashley Drive, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33602
christine@harrishunt derr.com

If you previously applied on or before July 14, 2021 for the County Court vacancy from the resignation of Judge Joelle Ober, your application and letters of recommendation will also be considered for these three vacancies unless you notify the Chair that you do not want your application considered. Applicants must have been a member of the Florida Bar for the preceding five years and must be a registered voter. The individual appointed must reside in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit at the time that he or she is appointed.

The "Revised Judicial Application" may be downloaded from the Office of the Governor (<https://www.flgov.com/judicial-and-judicial-nominating-commission-information/>). PLEASE NOTE: Effective July 1, 2020, the application has been substantially revised. Please be sure to download and use the current application. Applicants must submit:

- One digital (electronic) signed copy of the application (as a .PDF).
- One digital (electronic) signed copy of the application (as a .PDF) with personal information not subject to public disclosure redacted as permitted by Section 119.071, Florida Statutes, and suitable for production in response to public records requests.

NOTE TO APPLICANTS: All questions in the application must be fully and completely answered. The submitted application must include the required financial disclosures, a

writing sample, and a recent photograph. Applications must also include current contact information, including e-mail addresses, for all judges, co-counsel, opposing counsel, and references to facilitate the background investigation that members of the Commission will conduct. Applications and redacted applications must be in .PDF form. The two .PDF files should be named in a "last name.first name" format. For example: Bob Smith should submit two files names: (1) Smith.Bob.pdf and (2) Smith.Bob-REDACTED.pdf. No paper applications will be accepted.

Interviews will be conducted on or before Friday, August 27, 2021 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Hillsborough County Bar Association, Chester H. Ferguson Law Center, 1610 North Tampa Street, Tampa, FL 33602. Applicants selected to be interviewed will be contacted to confirm the time of the interviews and will be permitted to appear in person or remotely (via Zoom). A complete interview schedule will be published on or before August 20, 2021. A remote appearance option also will be made available for the public to attend the interviews.

All proceedings of the Commission are open to the public except for deliberations. Accordingly, applicants should not expect their applications to be kept confidential. If an applicant is nominated, all materials attached to the original application will be submitted to the Governor.

Questions about the application or interview process should be directed to the Chair, Christine Derr, or Vice-Chair Ryan Sainz.

The members of the Thirteenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission are:

Christine L. Derr, Chair, christine@harrishunt derr.com, 813-223-5421

Ryan Sainz, Vice Chair, rsainz@forthepeople.com, 813-223-5505

Maximillian Amster, max@veridismgmt.com, 813-575-2266

J. Carter Andersen, candersen@bushross.com, 813-204-6405

Pedro Bajo, pbajo@bajocuva.com, 813-443-2199

Michael Beltran Mike.beltran@myfloridahouse.gov 824-870-3073

Teresa M. Gaffney, terri@overstreetwealth.com, 813-287-1159

Andrew J. Mayts, Jr., amayts@shumaker.com, 813-227-2248

Thomas Newcomb Hyde, thomasnewcombhyde@gmail.com, 813-855-2071

Members of the bench, the Bar and the public are urged to contact the members of the Commission concerning applicants for judicial positions.