



RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

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April 19, 2021

Mr. Daniel Harrell  
Chair – First Circuit  
Judicial Nominating Commission  
125 West Romana Street, Suite 800  
Pensacola, Florida 32502

Dear Mr. Harrell:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you reconvene the First 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 Circuit Court. The list of names previously certified to the Governor's Office for the two vacancies created by the resignations of Judge Jeff Burns and Judge Ross Goodman contained less than the required minimum number of nominees (three) per vacancy. The previous list will be considered for the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Jeff Burns. When reconvening, 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 **Wednesday, May 19, 2021**. However, I encourage you to submit the additional list as soon as possible given the delay.

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 Judicial Appointments Coordinator Emily Dunson (850-717-9310; Emily.Dunson@eog.myflorida.com) will contact you to these ends.

The Commission's handling of this matter is most appreciated.

Sincerely,



James Uthmeier  
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable John Miller  
Chief Judge