



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

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850-717-9418

March 3, 2022

Ms. Shanta Matthews
Chair – Fifth Judicial Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission
108 N Magnolia Ave. Suite 600
Ocala, FL 34475

Dear Ms. Matthews:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Fifth 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 Lake County Court. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Jason J. Nimeth and resignation effective January 20, 2022. 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 **Saturday, April 2, 2022**. 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 "Ryan Newman".

Ryan Newman
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Daniel B. Merritt, Jr.
Chief Judge