

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 7, 2022**  
**Contact: Shanta Nicole Matthews, Chair**  
**Fifth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission**

The Fifth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission announces a vacancy in the Fifth Judicial Circuit for Lake County Court Judge due to the elevation of Judge Jason J. Nimeth. Applicants must have been a member of The Florida Bar for the preceding five (5) years and must be a registered voter. The appointee must be a resident of Lake County at the time he or she is appointed.

The 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. Applications are also available from the Chair:

Shanta Nicole Matthews  
108 N. Magnolia Avenue Suite 600  
Ocala, Florida 34475  
Telephone: 352-421-8722  
Facsimile: 352-732-4892  
Email: [shanta@smatthewslaw.com](mailto:shanta@smatthewslaw.com)

Applicants must submit a complete application to the Chair at [shanta@smatthewslaw.com](mailto:shanta@smatthewslaw.com). **The deadline for submitting the applications is Monday, March 21, 2022, at noon.** No applications will be accepted after such date and time. Applications deemed incomplete may be rejected in their entirety in the Commission's discretion. Applicants who are in need of guidance may contact the Chair.

Applications must be in .pdf form with a second .pdf version of the application with personal information not subject to public disclosure – such as the social security number – redacted as permitted by Section 119.071 of the Florida Statutes. 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.

**All interviews are scheduled for Friday, April 1, 2022,** at the Lake County Courthouse, 550 W. Main St., Tavares, FL 32778. Information regarding applicant interview times will be established and advertised at a later date. All proceedings of the Commission are open to the public except for deliberations.

Members of the bench, bar and public are encouraged to contact members of the Commission concerning applicants for judicial positions. Members of the Fifth Judicial Nominating Commission are, Shanta Nicole Matthews (Chair), Zachary J. McCormick (Vice Chair), Anita G. Carver, Jennifer C. Rey, Charles K. Ruse, Jr., Matthew Foreman, Vanessa Thomas and Robert W. Batsel, Jr. A complete listing and contact information for each member is available on The Florida Bar's website.