

RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR state of florida Office of the Governor

> THE CAPITOL TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

> > www.flgov.com 850-717-9418

July 18, 2023

Mr. Matthew Klein

Dear Mr. Klein:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Ninth 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 Ninth Judicial Circuit Court (three vacancies) and the Orange County Court (one vacancy). These appointments are to fill the vacancies created by the resignation of Judge Alice Blackwell, the elevation of Judge Paetra Brownlee, the resignation of Judge Tarlika Nunez-Navarro, and the elevation of Judge Elizabeth Gibson. 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**, **September 16, 2023**.

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 Director of Judicial Appointments, Meredith Pardo (850-717-9448; Meredith.Pardo@eog.myflorida.com) will contact you to these ends.

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

Sincerely,

Ryan Newman General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Lisa T. Munyon Chief Judge