



RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

www.flgov.com  
850-717-9418

July 31, 2023

Mr. Patrick Neal  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Neal:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Twelfth 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 Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court and the Sarasota County Court. These appointments are to fill the vacancies created by the retirement of Judge Charles Roberts and Judge Phyllis Rogers Galen. The Governor strongly prefers submission of the maximum number of nominees (six) for each of the vacancies.

The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is **Thursday, September 14, 2023**. In cases where a discretionary extension of no more than fifteen 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 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Newman".

Ryan Newman  
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Diana Moreland  
Chief Judge