

For Immediate Release

April 13, 2020

Contact: Jacob A. Brown, Chairman

Telephone: (904) 598-8630

**FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION
ANNOUNCES DUVAL COUNTY COURT VACANCY AND INTERVIEW DATE**

As a result of the appointment of The Honorable Anthony Salem to the Fourth Judicial Circuit, there is a vacancy on the Duval County Court Bench. Governor Ron DeSantis has asked the Fourth Judicial Circuit Nominating Commission (the "Commission") to provide him with highly qualified nominees for this vacancy.

Complete unredacted **and** redacted applications (see below for more information) for this vacancy must be received **before 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2020** at the following physical address: Jacob A. Brown, 50 N. Laura Street, Suite 3100, Jacksonville, FL 32202. PDF versions of both forms of completed application, including a digital photograph, **must** also be sent via e-mail to: jacob.brown@akerman.com

Application forms may be downloaded from the Florida Bar's website at www.floridabar.org or the Office of the Governor at www.flgov.com.

Interviews (as limited below) will be held on **Friday, May 15, 2020**. A subsequent press release will be issued after the April 30th application deadline with the interview schedule and details.

Following a procedure recently used by First District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission, this Commission only intends to interview those applicants that have not interviewed with the Commission for the past three vacancies this year. **Despite this change in procedure, the Commission will not eliminate any applicant from consideration by virtue of their not being interviewed for this vacancy.** Rather, given the recency of the interviews of other anticipated prior applicants and the challenges the entire legal community of Florida faces at this time, the Commission will provide those prior applicants not being interviewed the opportunity to submit a statement updating the Commission on anything the applicant wishes to share about themselves and their work experience since their last interview. Such statements are limited to one thousand (1,000) words. Statements must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Monday, May 11, 2020 to be considered. The statements should be sent to the Commission via email to jacob.brown@akerman.com

Neither incomplete applications nor applications submitted after the deadline will be considered. Further, all applicants must meet the qualifications for Judges outlined in Article V, Section 8 of the Florida Constitution.

Personal information not subject to public disclosure should be redacted on a separate copy of the application as permitted by Section 119.071 of the Florida Statutes. To assist the commission, all questions on the application must be fully and completely answered. Applications must include current contact information (especially direct phone numbers), including e-mail addresses for judges, co-counsel, opposing counsel, and references to facilitate the background investigation that will be conducted by the members of the Commission.

All proceedings of this Judicial Nominating Commission are open to the public except for deliberations. Accordingly, applicants should not expect that their application be kept confidential.

If an applicant is nominated, all materials attached to the original application will be submitted to Governor DeSantis's Office.

If there are any questions about the application process, please contact Jacob A. Brown at the number above. *Applicants shall not initiate contact with the Commissioners until the nominees are submitted to Governor DeSantis unless questions pertain to the application process only.*