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November 22, 2021

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Governor Ron DeSantis State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

RE: Judicial Nominating Commission

Applicants for 14th Judicial County

Court Judge Vacancy

Dear Governor DeSantis:

As per your request and pursuant to the Florida Constitution and Florida Statutes, the 14<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Nominating Commission recently convened in order to begin the process of filling the vacancy recently created when Circuit Court Judge John L. Fishel, II, of Panama City announced his upcoming retirement.

The Commission received sixteen (16) applications from interested members of the Florida Bar. Of those, the Commission chose to interview fifteen (15) individuals in order to determine their fitness for appointment. Those interviews took place on November 11, 2021.

Upon completion of the interview process, the Commission proceeded directly to deliberations. After much discussion and careful consideration, the Commission agreed that the following six (6) candidates, who are listed in alphabetical order, are highly qualified and more than capable to fill the position available.

- Devin Collier
- 2. Brian Hill
- 3. Shalla Jefcoat
- 4. Peter Overstreet
- 5. Jacqueline Smith
- 6. Grant Spitzer

Lastly, today I am sending to you, via FedEx, the six (6) applications along with all letters of recommendation that were submitted to the Commission. If after reviewing these materials you should have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at my office at 850-763-6335 or on my cell at 850-814-2399.

Waylon Graham

Chairman

Yours truly,

14th Judicial Circuit

**Judicial Nominating Commission** 

AWG/mls

cc: Ryan Newman, General Counsel

Annie Ortega

Enclosures as stated