



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

www.flgov.com
850-717-9418

January 4, 2021

Mr. Michael Sasso
Chair – Fifth Appellate District
Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 West Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Dear Mr. Sasso:

On behalf of Governor DeSantis, I am requesting that you convene the Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission for the purpose of selecting and submitting to the Governor the names of highly qualified lawyers for appointment to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Richard Orfinger. The Governor strongly prefers submission of the maximum number of nominees (six) for the vacancy.

The Commission's deadline for completion of this undertaking is **Wednesday, February 3, 2021**. In cases where a discretionary extension of no more than thirty 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 JNC Coordinator Erin Kraeft (850-717-9310; Erin.Kraeft@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 "James Uthmeier".

James Uthmeier
Acting General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Kerry Evander
Chief Judge